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Stakeholder Profiles

www.mime-project.org
Kristina Cunningham is currently the senior policy officer in charge of Multilingualism in the Directorate General for Education and Culture of the European Commission in Brussels. Before this she worked as a translator for the European Commission and as a sales and marketing manager in the private sector, including eight years in Germany. She holds a Masters degree in business administration and modern languages from the University of Gothenburg, Sweden, and a Certificate of Political Studies from the Institute of Political Sciences in Paris, France.

Kristina’s current work is focusing on the implementation of the EU objective for the development of language competences in Europe, as agreed by the Heads of State and Government in 2002: that every EU citizen should have the opportunity to learn at least two foreign languages in compulsory education, starting “from a very early age”.

About DG EAC
The Education, Youth, Sport and Culture Directorate-General is responsible of policies in the field of education, youth, culture, languages and sport.

Kevin De Coninck is a senior advisor on language policies at the Nederlandse Taalunie (Dutch Language Union). His main focus is the use of Dutch and other languages in multilingual contexts, both within and outside the Dutch language area. He is currently developing specific language policies to support the use of Dutch and other languages in several domains in society, in order to keep Dutch a fully-fledged language itself and to make optimal use of multilingualism as well.

About The Nederlandse Taalunie
The Nederlandse Taalunie (Dutch Language Union) is the international organisation in which the Netherlands, Flanders (Belgium) and Suriname combine their strengths to support the Dutch language both at home and around the world, in order to keep the language as dynamic and vigorous as it is today. The actual baseline is: “Taal schept kansen” (language offers opportunities). The Nederlandse Taalunie stimulates people and parts of society to use Dutch in the most effective and efficient way possible, in order to increase their own opportunities. Therefore, the Nederlandse Taalunie proactively develops language policies, products and services. This way, the Dutch language stays an attractive and vivid language, both within and outside its own language area.
Vicent Fenollar is Policy and Outreach Manager at NPLD.

**About NPLD**
The Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity is a European wide network working in the field of language policy & planning for Constitutional, Regional and Small-State Languages (CRSS) across Europe. NPLD includes Governments both national and regional, Universities and Associations as its members.

NPLD’s main goal is to raise awareness at the European level on the vital importance of linguistic diversity. NPLD also aims to facilitate the exchange of best practices among governments, policy makers, practitioners, researchers and experts from all over Europe.

Eyvor Fogarty is a former Chairman of FIT Europe and treasurer of FIT. She has a long association with the translation industry and has represented her local association (ITI) at the Confederation of British Industry. She is also a member of LIND, the expert panel at DGT.

Her current areas of interest are professional development for all and the progress of Revision as an affirmative necessity. She has delivered lectures and workshops around the world and was awarded a Pushkin gold medal for services to translation.

**About FIT Europe**
FIT Europe represents the interests of around 40,000 translators and interpreters in the European geographic area. It is one of the regional centres of FIT, the International Federation of Translators, a global forum for exchanging information and experience, and finding solutions for shared problems.
Yves Gambier is professor emeritus. He is currently a visiting professor at IEBFU/Immanuel Kant Baltic Federal University in Kaliningrad, Russia (2016-2019), a coordinator of a Research project on translation and nation at the KTU/Kaunas Technological University, Lithuania (2016-2019), and a visiting scholar in several Chinese universities. He taught translation and interpreting at the University of Turku (Finland) (1973-2014). He has conducted many studies and published on socio-terminology and special discourse, Translation Studies, Discourse Analysis, bilingualism in Finland, early bilingual education, audio-visual translation.

He has been involved in different European research projects and was the General editor (2005-2016) and is the Honorary editor (2017-) of Benjamins Translation Library; he is on the editorial board of several Journals in Translation Studies. Among his different commitments, he was the Chair of the group of experts in the project EMT/European Master’s in Translation (2007-2010) and member of the EMT Board (2010-2014); the Vice president (1993-98) then President (1998-2001 and 2001-2004) of the European Society for Translation Studies EST; the president of the FIT Committee for the media (1993-2004); the vice president (1996-1998) then president (1998-2004) of the European Association for Studies in Screen Translation.

After having worked for 15 years in primary schools in a number of countries, she is now conducting research on translanguaging as pedagogy in linguistically diverse primary schools in Brussels. Her main focus is on the social processes of learning, linguistic ideologies and the impact of language policy decisions on pupils’ well being. In collaboration with teachers she seeks to explore how schools can use pupils additional languages as didactic resources for learning.

About the Diversity & Learning Support Center (SDL)
The Diversity & Learning Support Center (SDL) is affiliated with the Department of Linguistics at Ghent University and develops research and institutional support around the theme of ‘dealing with diversity’. SDL sees this theme as an important lever to strengthen our pluralistic and democratic society and to promote social justice. SDL works with education partners as well as other sectors and offers support in the form of vision development, research, materials development and training, coaching and consultancy.
As a linguist (specialised in the rhythm of language) and educational developer Karijn Helsloot has been involved in multilingualism for over 15 years.

About Studio Taalwetenschap
Studio Taalwetenschap, a small NGO in Amsterdam, has 20 years of experience in development, support and training related to language policy and multilingualism. Since 2001, the European year of the languages, a number of educational programmes have been developed for primary and secondary schools. One of which is Taaltrotters, a multidisciplinary Lingua project with partners in Germany, Sweden and Finland: teenagers with different language backgrounds collect and compare grammatical properties from their own and other languages. A similar approach is SJOES, 2018, a guideline for Dutch teachers in primary schools to embrace the linguistic (super)diversity of their classrooms.

Within the scope of MIME a number of ‘vertical’ expert meetings have been organized bringing together researchers, policymakers, teacher trainers as well as school principals and teachers from primary and secondary schools. A new network, called NOMinA, a spin-off from these MIME expert meetings, is now launched in order to continue scaffolding the multilingual realities in Dutch education, from kindergarten and preschool to universities.
Silva Kauko coordinates the relations of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Translation with international partners and advises on language policy questions. She was formerly a translator in the Finnish language department of DG Translation.

**About DG Translation**
The Directorate-General for Translation of the European Commission (DGT) is one of the largest translation services in the world. It translates legislation, web content and all types of documents between the EU's 24 official languages and offers editing services to Commission departments. It has 2200 staff and its annual production is around 2 million pages.

DGT has developed its own customized machine translation service and created a quality label to university programmes in translation that meet agreed professional standards.

Stewart Kerr works on projects that focus on the challenges faced by migrants coming into Europe particularly the issue of conversion to Christianity. Outside his work with CCME he's a full time Masters Student at Trinity College Dublin, originally from Canada, studying International Peace Studies.

**About CCME**
Churches Commission for Migrants in Europe is an ecumenical organisation that serves the churches in their commitment to promote the vision of an inclusive community through advocating for an adequate policy for migrants, refugees and minority groups at European and national level.

In the fulfilment of this mandate it is responding to the message of the Bible which insists on the dignity of every human being and to the understanding of unity as devoid of any distinction between strangers and natives.
Nicoletta Mariolini holds degrees in economics and cultural mediation. She specialised in the economy of health, and developing countries (namely Senegal) and in the training for adults.

Before becoming the Swiss Delegate for Multilingualism in 2013, she was also a municipal councillor for the City of Lugano and the cantonal parliament of Ticino.

About the Swiss Federal Delegate for Plurilingualism

In Switzerland, all areas of activity are linked directly or indirectly to the history of plurilingualism. The closer the area of activity is to the public sector, the stronger that link is.

Within the scope of the policy to promote plurilingualism, the delegate monitors the application of the law and supports the Federal Council, the Federal Departments and the administrative units in the performance of their tasks. Proximity to even the remotest regions plays a key role in this regard. That is why the delegate for plurilingualism also works together with the cantonal entities and national bodies which deal with the promotion of plurilingualism.
Rónán Ó Domhnaill was appointed Language Commissioner for Ireland in March 2014. Previous to his appointment Rónán spent 16 years as a journalist with the national broadcaster in Ireland, RTÉ and with the Irish language television station TG4. The Language Commissioner reports directly to the Houses of the Oireachtas. Rónán is often before Oireachtas committees to speak about language rights and the need to protect and strengthen those rights.

Rónán is chairman of the International Association of Language Commissioners, chairman of the Irish Ombudsman’s Forum and an executive board member of the Ombudsman Association. He has recently completed a dissertation on the independence of Ombudsmen in Ireland.

Margaux Moulin is a Master student in European Studies at KU Leuven. She is interested in EU affairs in general, and language issues in particular. She is currently writing a thesis on multilingualism and language learning. Her focus is on Brussels. She is looking at the extent to which language learning is promoted at both the Belgian and the EU level.

The Master program she is enrolled in is actively engaged in multidisciplinary research on various interlinked dimensions of Europe studies. There is a strong emphasis on thinking out of the box: adopting a non-Western perspective on Europe in order to better understand global relations.

About An Coimisinéir Teanga
An Coimisinéir Teanga, established in 2004, functions as an ombudsman service and compliance agency in relation to state services through Irish.

The objective of this Office is to be a source of information and assistance to those concerned with the public’s language rights and the language obligations of the state system. The website acts as a one stop shop or central information point in relation to all aspects of the Official Languages Act 2003 and the Office of An Coimisinéir Teanga.
Marga Payola is the responsible for international affairs in Plataforma per la Llengua. She holds a degree in architecture and works as a parliamentary assistant for Ramon Tremosa MEP (PDeCAT-ALDE).

**Marga Payola**  
Plataforma per la Llengua  
www.plataforma-llengua.cat  
internacional@plataforma-llengua.cat

About Plataforma per la Llengua
Plataforma per la Llengua is a non-profit organization based in Barcelona working to promote the Catalan language as a tool for social cohesion in the entire Catalan-speaking area; this includes Northeast Spain (Catalonia, Valencia, Balearic Islands and Eastern Strip of Aragon), Southeast France (Eastern Pyrenees Department), Italy (City of Alghero), and the Principality of Andorra.

We have been in existence 25 years, we have more than 16,000 members, and we participate in two international networks, ELEN (European Language Equality Network) and NPLD (Network for the Promotion of Linguistic Diversity), which are constituted of organizations that defend and promote languages of national minorities.

Meirion Pryns Jones
Consultant, Manager and Trainer in the areas of linguistic, cultural and community development. Managing projects in Wales, undertaking research, policy and strategy development, lobbying and providing mentoring for managers. Director-owner of the company, LinguaNi which specializes in language planning. The company offers a service in Welsh or English, providing reports and statements in either language. It will also provide services in several European languages, using appropriate translation services.

Mmeiron was for twelve years Deputy Chief Executive and then Chief Executive of the Welsh Language Board. The WLB had 80 members of staff, in 14 offices in different parts of Wales, and a budget of £13 million (16.5m euro). In 2007 he became Chairman of the European Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity (NPLD), initially as Chair and then Chief Executive. He was also Chair for eight years of the Language strand established by the British Irish Council under the Good Friday Agreement between the UK and Ireland.

Meirion Pryns Jones
meirion.jones@sky.com
Rafael Sainz de Rozas is a lawyer and lecturer at the University of the Basque Country, his main fields of professional interest being Human Rights and Criminal Law. Since 2006 he has been a senior officer at the Office of the Basque Ombudsman (Ararteko), where he is in charge of the Justice, Culture and Language Rights Units.

As a lawyer and an academic, he has worked with the Basque Bar and Universities in implementing tools and protocols for starting using Euskara in Court, and took part in the teamwork that helped developing a corpus of legal discourse and terms in Basque, including the first translation of the Spanish Criminal Code into Euskara.

Judith Richters is the vice-president of the FIPLV, the International Language Teachers Association, and the president of the Dutch federal language teachers association.

She works at Bureau ICE, an independent specialist in testing and examining in the Netherlands with a long-standing reputation in language testing. She is responsible for all the (language) tests commissioned by the Dutch government and all the tests on Dutch as a second language.

About FIPLV
The Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Langues Vivantes, founded in Paris in 1931, is the only international multilingual association of teachers of languages. It has Non-governmental Organisation (NGO) consultative status with UNESCO and has representation as an NGO with the Council of Europe.

Our aim is a.o. to promote the teaching and learning of languages, to improve the quality of language teaching and to promote, develop and support language policies.
Dimitra Stafilia holds a degree in Translation Studies from the Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting, Ionian University, Corfu, Greece. She also holds an MA in European Business and Languages from South Bank University, London and the European Master’s in Human Rights and Democratisation (E.MA), Venice. She has been the President of the Panhellenic Association of Professional Translators Graduates of the Ionian University since 2008. The Association was established with the aim to promote the translation profession in Greece as well as the interests of graduate translators. She has been Treasurer for FIT Europe since 2014.

Jennie Spetz is desk investigator concerning language policy issues at the Swedish Language Council.

About the Swedish Language Council
The Language Council, Språkrådet, is the primary institution for language cultivation in Sweden. It is a department of the official language authority The Institute for Language and Folklore (Institutet för språk och folkminnen).

The Council’s mission is to monitor the development of spoken and written Swedish and also to monitor the use and status of all other languages spoken in Sweden. Primarily, that means promoting the use of Swedish sign language and our five official minority languages, Finnish, Meänkieli, Sami, Romani and Yiddish. Yet another task is to strengthen Nordic language unity. The Council has about 25 employees.

About FIT Europe
FIT Europe unites the interests of around 35,000 language professionals, through its member associations of translators, interpreters, terminologists, and associated researchers and trainers, right across Europe. It is one of the regional centres of the Fédération internationale des Traducteurs and serves as a forum for exchanging information and experience, finding solutions to shared problems and agreeing on measures to heighten public awareness of good professional practice. FIT Europe’s principal objectives are to promote the interests of translators and interpreters in Europe, to encourage recognition of the benefits society derives from translation, and to coordinate national efforts to achieve formal recognition of the title and status of Translator.
Helen Svaerke is the administrator at CIP, the Centre for Internationalisation and Parallel Language Use at the University of Copenhagen.

CIP functions as a resource centre for the University as a whole and among other things, we provide a wide range of language courses for students and staff at the university. As an administrator she supports director Anne Holmen in the management of CIP.

About the CIP
The Centre for Internationalisation and Parallel Language Use (CIP) was established in 2008 following a decision by the Board of the University of Copenhagen.

CIP will augment the University’s efforts to implement a language policy based on the principles of parallel language use. The Centre functions both as a research and training centre; its principal aim is to develop a research-based strategy for the enhancement of Danish and English language skills among various groups at the University. The objective of this strategy is to contribute to the strengthening of the University’s international profile by supporting employees and students in meeting language-related challenges.

Dr Tõnu Tender has been director of the Institute of the Estonian Language since September 2015.

About the Eesti Keele Instituut
The Institute of the Estonian Language is a national Research and Development institution whose goal is to contribute to the long-term survival of the Estonian language. The Institute researches modern Estonian, the history of the Estonian language, Estonian dialects and Finno-Ugric cognate languages.

The task of the Institute is to guarantee the norms of the Estonian standard language, which pursuant to law are established by the most recent version of the Dictionary of Standard Estonian.

The Institute has the status of the Office of Onomastic Expertise, whose function is to give expert opinions regarding names and to organise targeted research on place names.
Luca Tomasi has been working in the area of language policy with the European Commission until recently. Although he retired in April from that position, he’s still interested in this area, particularly concerning how language teaching and learning could and should be adapted in light of the evolving needs, resources and opportunities.

Luca Tomasi
Independent researcher
luca.tomasi@skynet.be

Christian Tremblay
Observatoire européen du plurilinguisme (OEP)
www.observatoireplurilinguisme.eu
c tremblay@neuf.fr


About OEP
L’OEP, organisme issu de la société civile, entend favoriser une prise de conscience des enjeux linguistiques et impulser des politiques publiques favorisant le plurilinguisme et la diversité linguistique, dans tous les domaines.


Gearóid Trimble
Foras na Gaeilge
www.forasnagaeilge.ie
getrimble@forasnagaeilge.ie

Programme Manager with Foras na Gaeilge, the intergovernmental body for the promotion of the Irish language. Since 2004, he has been responsible for managing annual funding of +€5.5 million, developing and implementing policy, and delivering strategic direction and programmes in the area of Language Policy and Planning.

About Foras na Gaeilge
Foras na Gaeilge is the intergovernmental implementation body responsible for the promotion of the Irish language throughout the whole island of Ireland. With regard to Language Policy and Planning, it works closely with the governing departments in implementing language policy strategies in the respective jurisdictions. Since 2014, it has implemented a new cross-sectoral partnership approach with 6 Lead Organisations which are responsible for developing and facilitating various aspects of language policy and planning at both national and regional level, particularly Glór na nGael with 12 regional Irish Language Development Facilitators.

With the enactment of Acht na Gaeltachta (2012), the Irish Government introduced accompanying official guidelines for the implementation of the national language policy and which is used by Foras na Gaeilge in regards to two strands of the policy with which Foras na Gaeilge is responsible for: Lionraí Gaeilge (Irish Language Networks) and Bailte Seirbhísí Gaeltachta (Gaeltacht Service Towns).

Piet Van de Craen
Vrije Universiteit Brussel
pvdcrean@vub.ac.be

Piet Van de Craen is a Professor in Linguistics of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB). His research interests include aspects of multilingualism and multilingual education. He is co-founder of the European Language Council/Conseil européen pour les langues (ELC/CEL) (1997) and co-founder of a network of multilingual primary schools in Brussels (STIMOB) (2001) promoting multilingual education.

His research on multilingual education mainly focuses on the cognitive and cerebral advantages of multilingual school children. He advocates Content and Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) as the most powerful learning approach to make pupils better learners and to prepare them for the modern knowledge society.

About the VUB
The Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) has a fine record of European collaboration. Its institutions have participated in the DYLAN and MIME research projects and in most of the European projects led by Wolfgang Mackiewicz, Freie Universität Berlin (FUB), of the European Language Council related to language and education.
Maria Teresa Zanola
Conseil Européen pour les Langues/European Language Council (CEL/ELC)
www.celclc.org
mariateresa.zanola@unicatt.it

President of the CEL/ELC (Conseil Européen pour les Langues/European Language Council). President of Realiter (Réseau de terminologie des langues romanes) and Director of OTPL (Osservatorio di Terminologie e Politiche Linguistiche, Università Cattolica, Milan). Inside all these international institutions, she works for the study and promotion of specialized communication in the Euro-American romance languages, by means of scientific, theoretical and applied research activities.

She has participated in various projects on multilingual terminology, both in national and international contexts, in academic and professional domains (e.g. sustainable development, craftsmanship, fashion, Higher Education).

About CEL/ELC
Conseil Européen pour les Langues/European Language Council actively promotes European co-operation between institutions of higher education in the area of languages. Its role is to identify new issues and new cultural, social and professional needs, raise awareness of them and coordinate actions designed to address them.