



The European Cloud Platform for Language Technology, Natural Language Processing and Language-Centric Al

Prof. Dr. Georg Rehm (DFKI GmbH, Germany) Coordinator ELG, Co-coordinator ELE

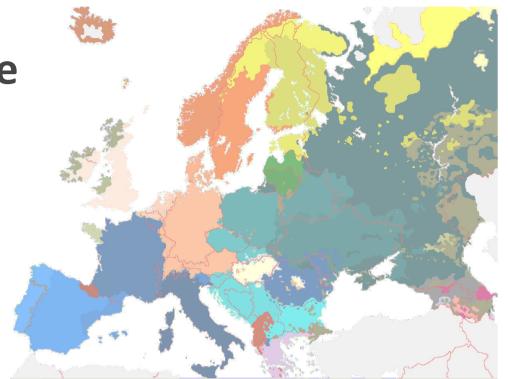
18-10-2021 ELG NCC Workshop Czech Republic & Slovakia http://www.european-language-grid.eu http://www.european-language-equality.eu

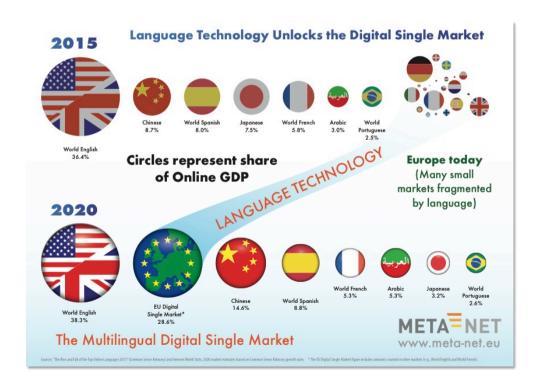


- History and context
- European Language Grid
- European Language Equality
- Summary and next steps

Point of Departure: Multilingualism in Europe

- Multilingualism is at the heart of the European idea
- 24 official EU languages they all have the same status
- Dozens of co-official, regional and minority languages as well as languages of immigrants and trade partners
- Many economic, social and technical challenges
 - The Digital Single Market needs to be multilingual
 - Cross-border, cross-lingual, cross-cultural communication
 - Fragmentation of the LT market and landscape







META FORUM 2010



META NET



EU-funded project (Seventh Framework Programme) working on technologies for the Multilingual European Information Society

META-NET

Established in 2010, META-NET is a network of Excellence consisting of 60 research centres from 34 countries, building the technological foundations of a multilingual European information society

META-FORUM 2010

2010

"Challenges for Multilingual Europe" (November 17/18, 2010)

2011

2012

META FORUM 2012

META-FORUM 2012

STRATEGIC RESEARCH AGENDA FOR MULTILINGUA EUROPE 2020

Conference "A Strategy for Multilingual Europe" (Brussels – June 20/21, 2012)

META-NET White Papers

Release of 32 volumes on 31 languages, revealing that there is a severe threat of digital extinction for at least 21 European languages (December 2012)

META FORUM 2015



META FORUM 2017

EU-funded project CRACKER (Horizon2020) pushing towards an improvement of MT research in terms of efficiency and effectiveness (2015 – 2017)

Cracking the Language Barrier Federation

Founded in 2015, the federation has been assembling European research and innovation projects as well as all related community organisations working on multilingual technologies

META-FORUM 2015

Conference "Technologies for the Multilingual Digital Single Market" (Riga – April 27, 2015)

Strategic Agenda for the Multilingual Digital Single Market (Version 0.5)

Launch of the Strategic Agenda for the Multilingual Digital Single Market titled "Technologies for Overcoming Language Barriers towards a truly integrated European Online Market" (April 2015)

Riga Summit on the Multilingual **Digital Single Market**

Summit "Shape the future of the multilingual digital single market" (April 27-29,2015)

"Language Equality in the Digital Age"

Workshop on "Language Equality in the Digital Age", commissioned by the EU Parliament's Science and Technology Options Assessment Committee (STOA) (January 2017)

"Language equality in the digital age: Towards a Human Language Project"

Launch of the study on "Language equality in the digital age: Towards a Human Language Project", commissioned by the EU Parliament (March 2017)

META-FORUM 2017

Conference "Towards a Human Language Project" (Brussels - November 13/14, 2017)

Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (V1.0)

Launch of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda titled "Language Technologies for Multilingual Europe - Towards a Human 2017 Language Project" (December 2017)

ELG Final Proposal Submission

Final submission on Feb. 20, 2018



COMPRISE

EUROPEAN LANGUAGE GRID

Ourmet

2019-2022

EUROPEAN LANGUAGE EOUALITY

2021-2022

META-NORD

EU-funded (ICT PSP)

Project to establish an open linguistic infrastructure in the Baltic and Nordic countries (2011 - 2013)

METANET4U

META NORD

EU-funded project (ICT Policy Support Programme) METANET4U to enhance the European Linguistic Infrastructure (2011 - 2013)



CESAR

EU-funded project (ICT Policy Support Programme) functioning as a part of META-NET to standardise language resources and tools (2011 - 2013)

META-FORUM 2011

META FORUM 2011

Conference "Solutions for Multilingual Europe" (Budapest – June 27/28, 2011)

META FORUM 2013

"State of the Art of Machine Translation -Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda Current Challenges and Future Opportunities 2014 (Version 0.9)

Workshop on "State of the Art of Machine Translation", commissioned by the EU Parliament (December 2013)

META SHARE

META-SHARE

Initiated in 2013. META-SHARE has functioned as an open and secure network of repositories for sharing and exchanging language data, tools and services

Strategic Research Agenda for Multilingual Europe

Launch of the Strategic Research Agenda for Multilingual Europe 2020 (January 2013)

META-FORUM 2013

Conference "Connecting Europe for New Horizons" (Berlin - September 19/20, 2013)

Language Barrier

CRACKER

Launch of the Strategic Research and Innovation

Agenda titled "Language as a Data Type and Key

Challenge for Big Data" (July 2016)

Conference "Beyond Multilingual Europe"

META-FORUM 2016

(Lisbon – July 4/5, 2016)































META-NET Language White Papers "Europe's Languages in the Digital Age"

Basque Bulgarian* Catalan Croatian* Czech* Danish* Dutch* English* Estonian* Finnish*

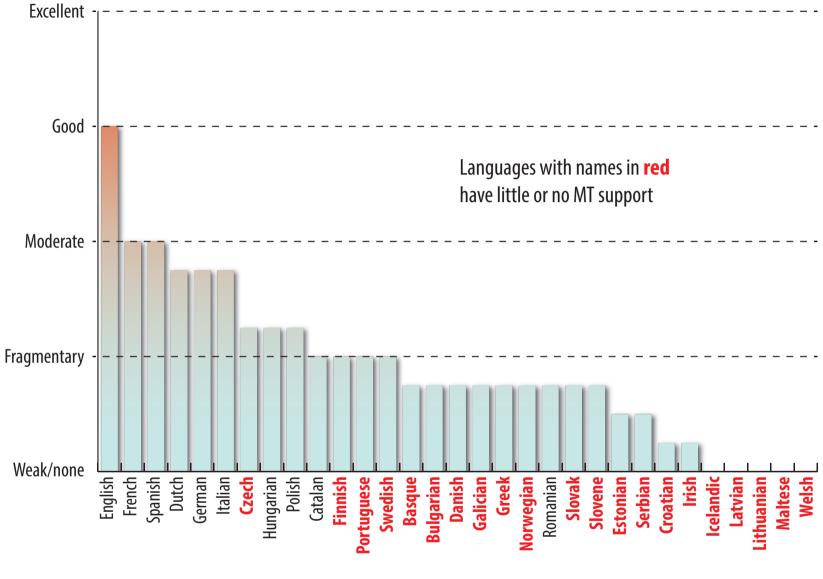
Galician German* Greek* Hungarian* Icelandic Irish* Italian* Latvian* Lithuanian* Maltese* Norwegian

Polish* Portuguese* Romanian* Serbian Slovak* Slovene* Spanish* Swedish* Welsh

* Official EU language



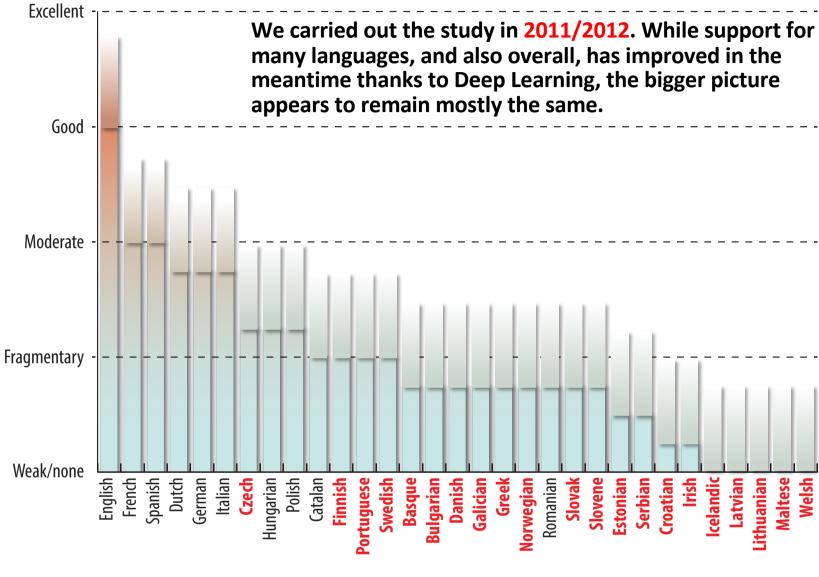






Source: META-NET White Paper Series: Europe's Languages in the Digital Age. Springer, Heidelberg, New York, Dordrecht, London, September 2012. Georg Rehm and Hans Uszkoreit (series editors)







Source: META-NET White Paper Series: Europe's Languages in the Digital Age. Springer, Heidelberg, New York, Dordrecht, London, September 2012. Georg Rehm and Hans Uszkoreit (series editors)

European Parliament Resolution (2018)

EP Resolution "Language equality in the digital age" P8 TA(2018)0332 – partially based on the STOA study

Voting (11 Sept. 2018): **592 yes** – 45 no

Recommendations addressed by European Language Grid:

- 29. Create a European LT platform for sharing of services
- 41. Enable and empower European SMEs to use LTs
- 26. ICT integrators should be given economic incentives for LT
- 27. Europe has to secure its leadership in language-centric Al
- 32. Set up LT financing platform; emphasise R&D in Deep NLU
- 40. Develop investment instruments and accelerator programs

European Parliament



2014-2019

TEXTS ADOPTED Provisional edition

P8 TA-PROV(2018)0332

Language equality in the digital age

European Parliament resolution of 11 September 2018 on language equality in the digital age (2018/2028(INI))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to Articles 2 and 3(3) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European
- having regard to Articles 21(1) and 22 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the
- having regard to the 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage,
- having regard to Directive 2003/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 November 2003 on the re-use of public sector information¹,
- having regard to Directive 2013/37/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 June 2013 amending Directive 2003/98/EC on the re-use of public sector information²,
- having regard to Decision (EU) 2015/2240 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2015 establishing a programme on interoperability solutions and common frameworks for European public administrations, businesses and citizens (ISA2 programme) as a means for modernising the public sector³,
- having regard to the Council resolution of 21 November 2008 on a European strategy for multilingualism (2008/C 320/01)⁴.
- having regard to the Council decision of 3 December 2013 establishing the specific programme implementing Horizon 2020 – the Framework Programme for Research and

₩ ELG European Language Grid

OJ L 345, 31.12.2003, p. 90. OJ L 175, 27.6.2013, p. 1. OJ L 318, 4.12.2015, p. 1.

⁴ OJ C 320, 16.12.2008, p. 1



EUROPEAN LANGUAGE GRID



Objectives (Selection)

- 1. Establish the ELG as the primary Language Technology platform and market place in Europe to tackle the fragmentation of the European LT landscape.
- 2. ELG as a platform for commercial and non-commercial, industry-related LTs (functional and non-functional).
- 3. Enable the European LT community to upload services and data sets, to deploy them and to connect with, and make use of those resources made available by others.
- 4. Enable businesses to grow and benefit from scaling up.
- 5. Unleash enormous potential for innovation.











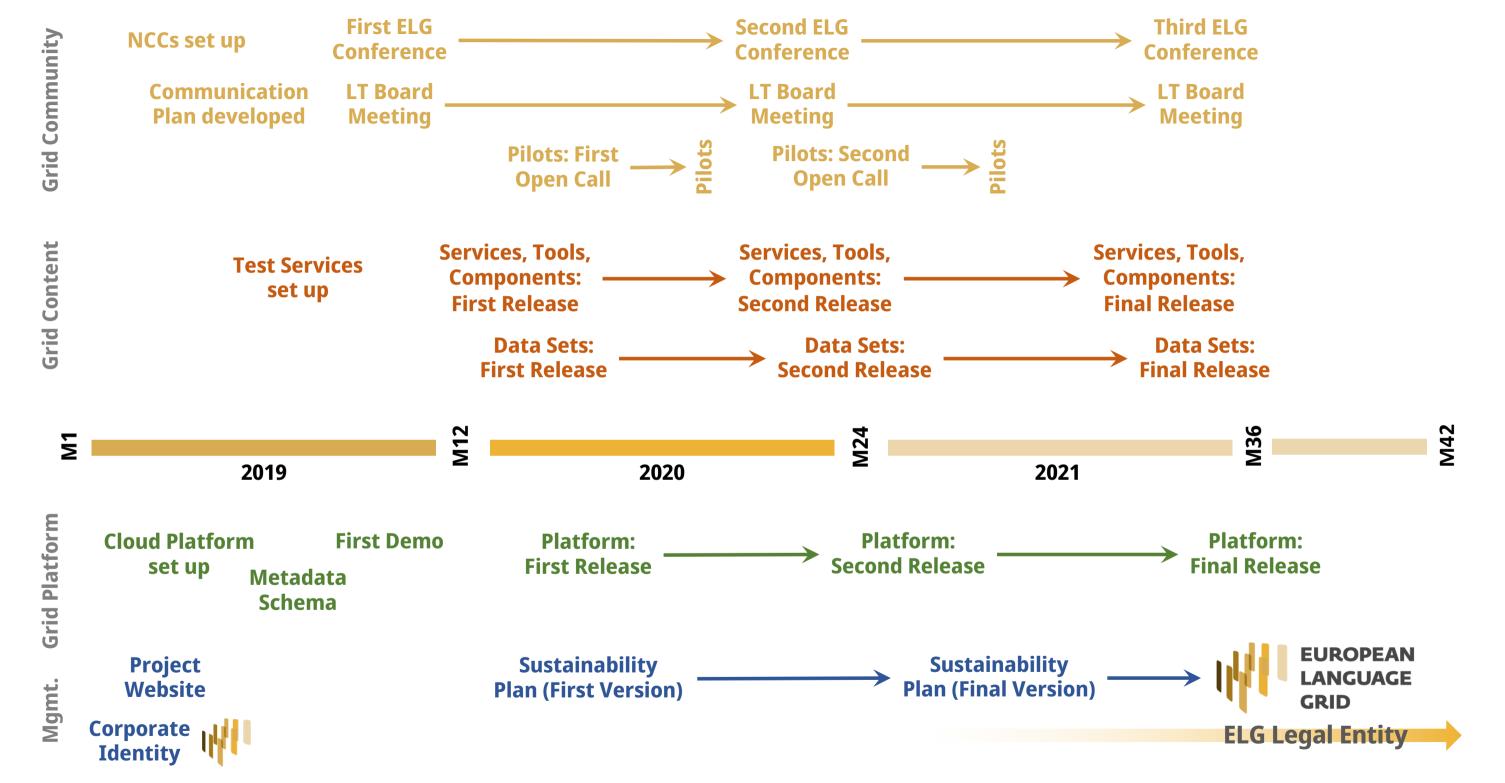






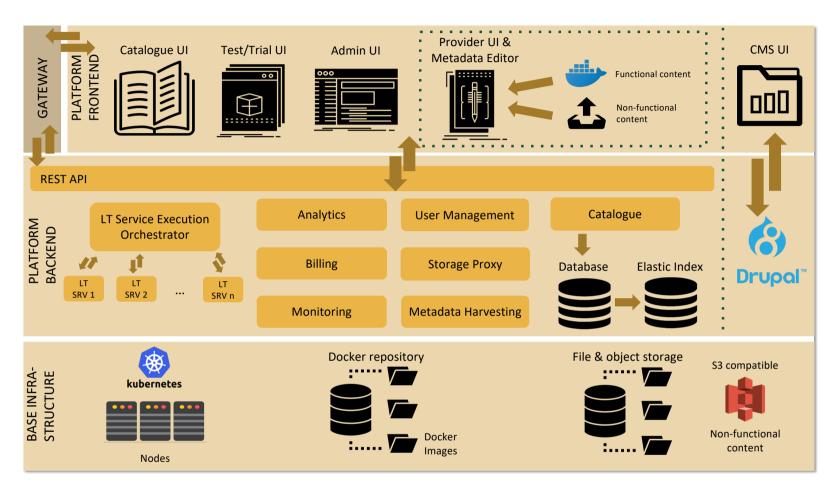






European Language Grid – Current State of Play (September 2021)

- User registration, authentication, authorisation
- User categories, respective rights and policies
- LT metadata upload
- Metadata conversion and harvesting
- LT service registration, integration
- LT service try out and execution
- LT data browsing, searching, downloading
- Current state of play ELG Release 2 (Oct. 2021):
 - 428 functional services and tools
 - 3500 corpora and data sets
 - 908 lexical/conceptual resources
 - 25 language descriptions, grammars, models
 - 1789 organisations (research orgs., companies)



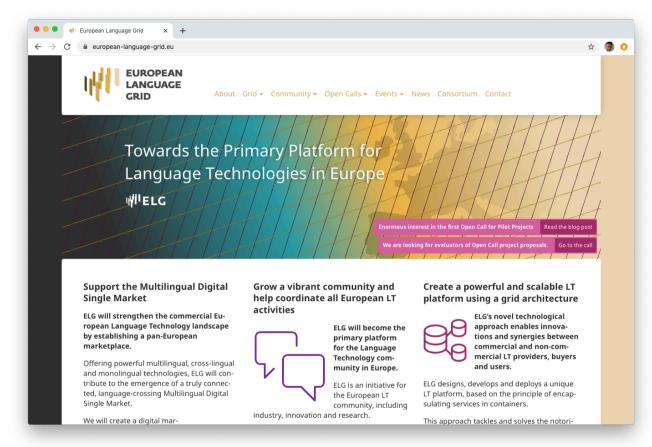
Users can connect to the ELG cloud platform via ELG APIs, remote APIs, ELG GUI, Python SDK, download of containers or source code.

ELG Release 2 made available at the end of March 2021

ELG Release 3 to be made available in early 2022.

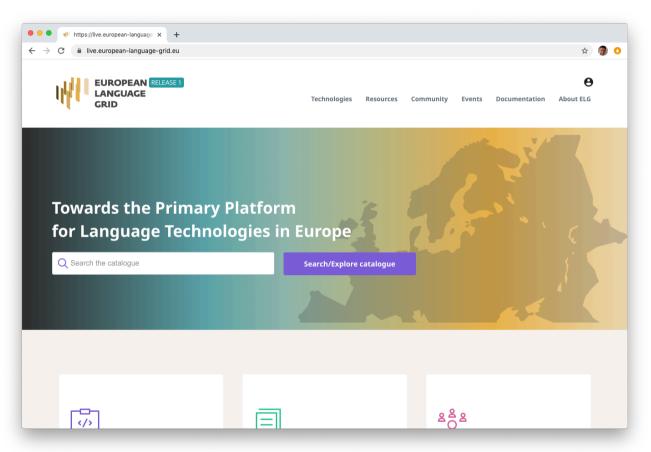


European Language Grid – Quick Demo



https://www.european-language-grid.eu

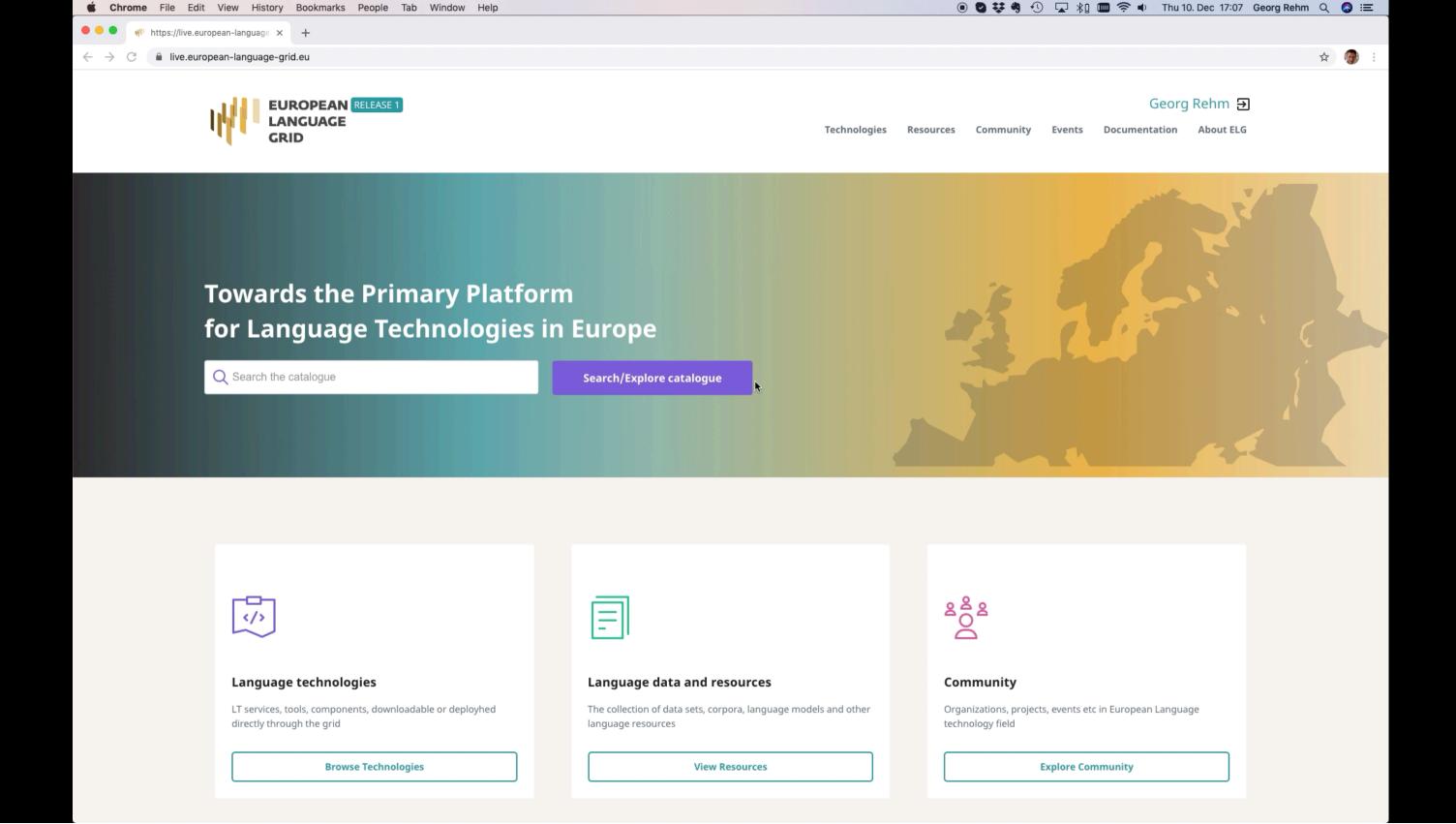
- ELG project website
- Typical information about our EU project plus a lot of additional content (events, open calls, community, NCCs etc.)
- The whole content of the project website will be integrated into the European Language Grid website (proper) in the second half of 2021

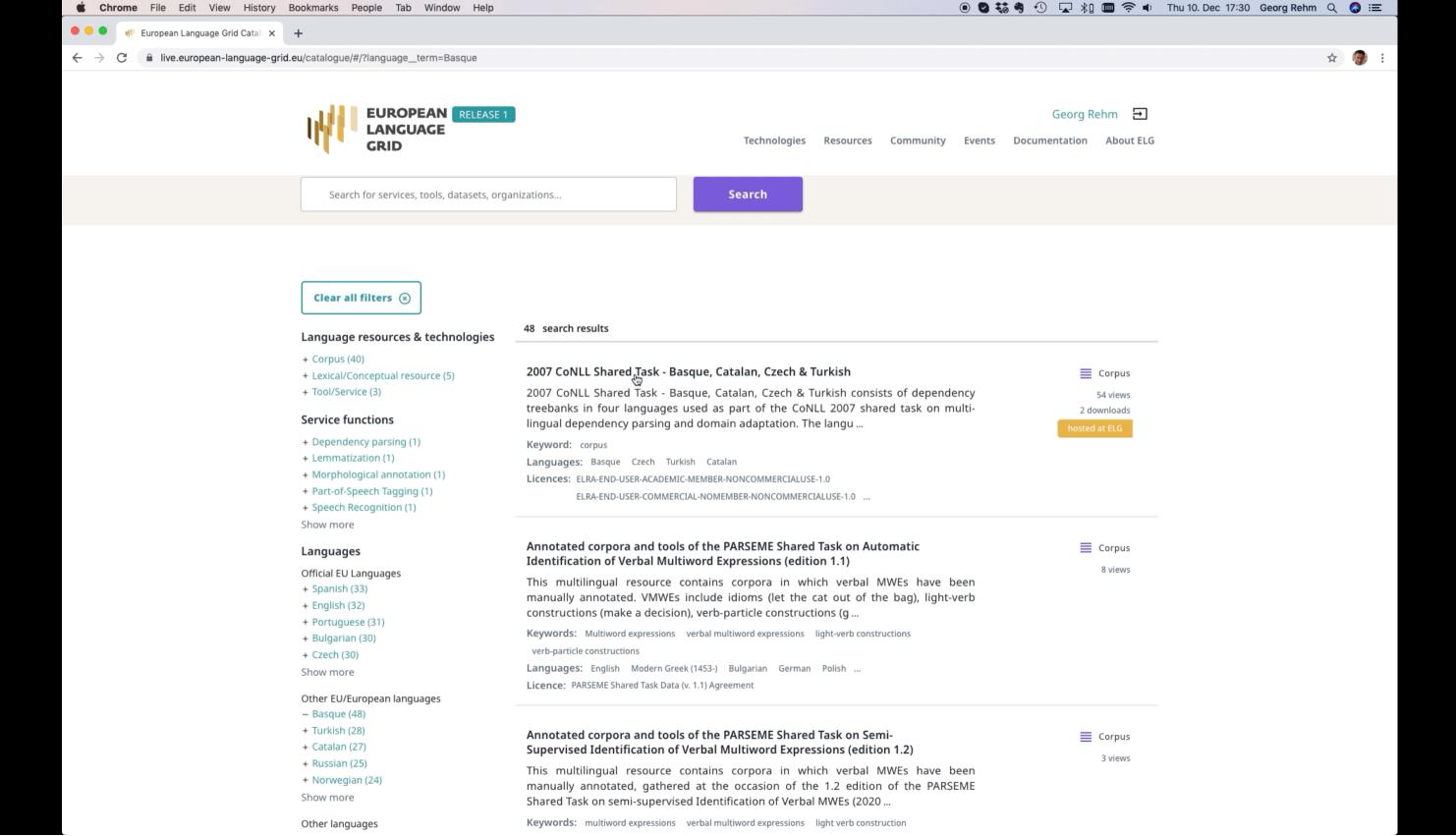


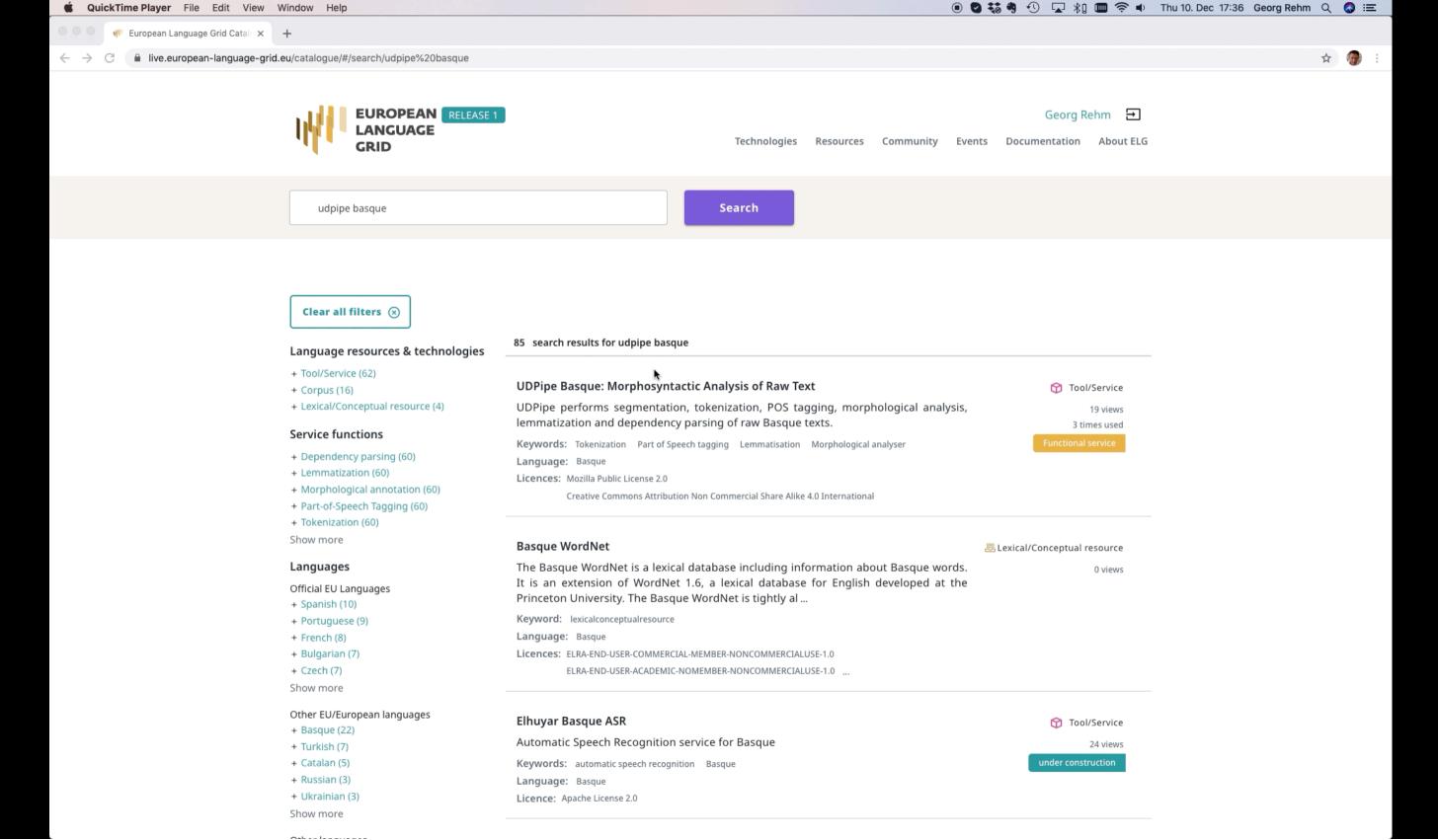
https://live.european-language-grid.eu

- The actual European Language Grid platform and website
- The next revision of the ELG project website (left) will include dynamic content that will be pulled from the ELG repository (right), e.g., languages, number of services, categories of services etc.

##ELG

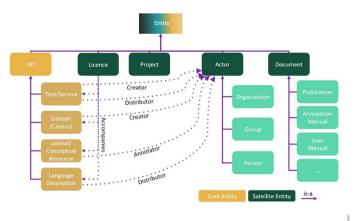


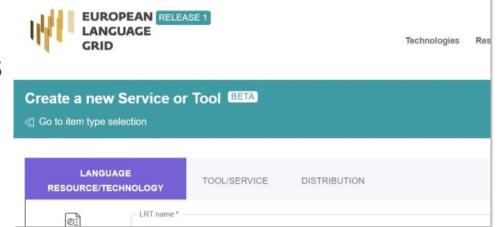




European Language Grid – What can you do with it?

- Data consumers can search and browse the ELG catalogue
 - for different types of data, language processing services, projects and organisations
 - download data (depending on access conditions)
- Service consumers can try out and test language processing services
 - call a service from the command line, integrate it into workflow
 - view code samples
 - current API support: MT, IE, ASR, TTS, text classification
- Data and service consumers can use a Python-based API for accessing the ELG catalogue, searching and directly fetching datasets to feed them into, e.g., their model training pipeline
- · Data providers can upload resources and register metadata descriptions using a semantic schema
 - a dashboard provides an overview of own resources including their status (draft → published)
- Language Technology providers can provide their service/tool as a Docker container
 - Different options: (a) Docker image in ELG, can be run from ELG; (b) Docker image in ELG as proxy talks to remote service





ELG Python SDK – Overview

- Brings main ELG functionalities to Python.
- Integrate ELG services into pipelines.
- Repository available on Gitlab: https://gitlab.com/european-language-grid/platform/python-client
- Currently available functionalities:
 - Search the ELG catalogue
 - Download ELG resources
 - Call ELG services
 - Compare multiple ELG services on various inputs (benchmarking)

from elg import Service # `pip install elg` to install the package

lt = Service.from_id(4800) # 4800 is the id of a Polish-English translation service

At this step, the user will need to authenticate on the ELG.

result = lt("Pandemia powoduje, ze telepraca staje sie obowiazkowa dla wielu osob.") # it is also possible to translate a text file by passing the path

print(result)

{'response': {'type': 'texts', 'texts': [{'content': 'The pandemic makes teleworking compulsory for many people.', 'score': 0}]}}

- Coming up:
- Contribute resources/services to ELG using Python through automated deployment

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- Enable running ELG services locally (by running Docker images locally)
- Improve search experience
- Many additional features ...

WELG

Stakeholders and Users

Companies that

- ... develop Language Technologies
- ... integrate Language Technologies
- ... purchase Language Technologies

Universities and research centres that

- ... develop Language Technologies
- ... use Language Technologies



META-FORUM 2019 (8/9 October) – Brussels, Belgium

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Public administrations that purchase or use Language Technologies

Other organisations (e.g., NGOs) that purchase or use Language Technologies

Funding agencies that support the development of Language Technologies

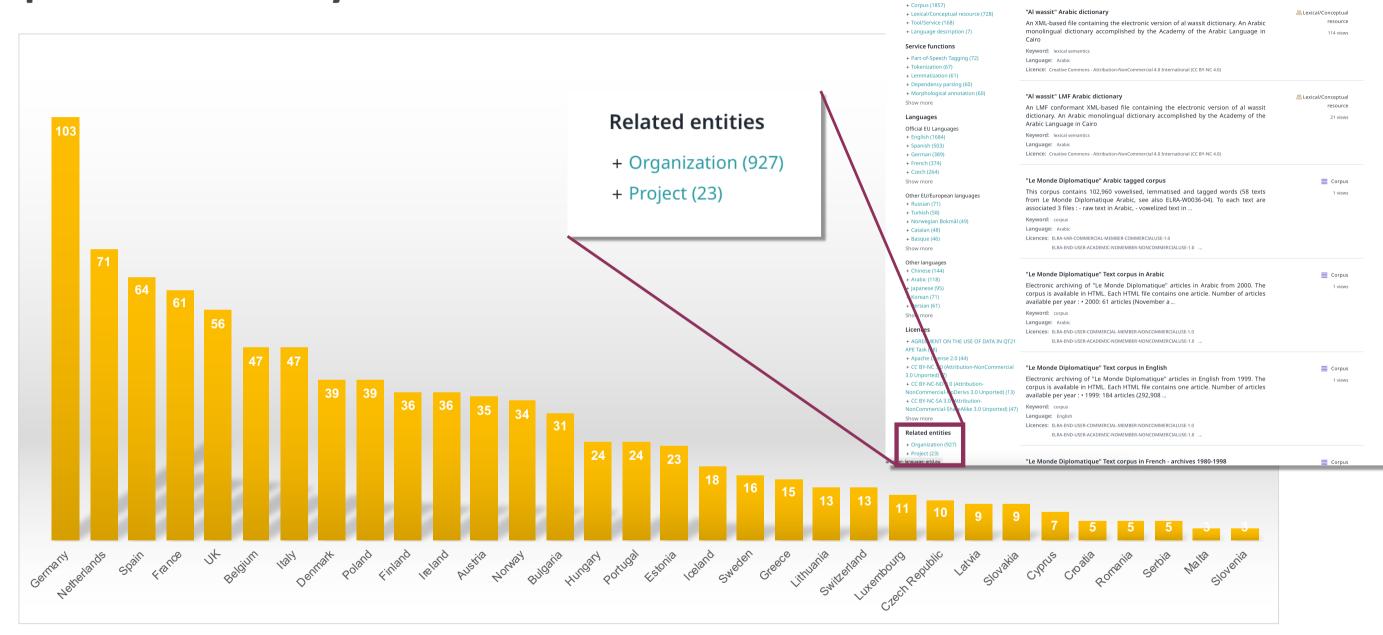
₩ ELG

LANGUAGE

Language resources & technologies

Clear all filters (x)

European LT Industry in the ELG





Stakeholders and Users and Collaborators





ELG Open Calls: 15 pilot projects

Six ICT-29b research and innovation projects

ELE – European Language Equality

Al4EU – European Al on demand platform

Related projects: ELRC, Elexis, Lynx, MeMAD, Fandango, CEF INEA projects (MAPA, NTEU etc.) etc.

Core networks: META-NET, LT Innovate

Additional initiatives: CLAIRE, AI PPP, ECSPM, EFNIL, BDVA, NPLD, CLARIN, W3C, NGI, RDA, EOSC, OpenAIRE etc., ICT-48 projects





Global Under Resourced MEdia Translation









Community: NCCs and LTC

W

32 National Competence Centres (NCCs)

- Strong international network of national networks to broaden ELG's reach, identify content for the ELG and interest companies in using the ELG.
- Main goal: support the mission of the ELG project.

European LT Council (LTC) (work in progress)

- A pan-European body iEUROPEAN tegic LT-related matters
 can be discusse conditioned.
- Main goal: represent and support European LT community.



Aust



DAGMAR GROMAN

Centre for Translation Studies, University of Vien

Belgium



WALTER DAELEMAN

Computational Linguistics and Psycholinguistics, University of Antwe

Rulgaria



SVETLA KOEV

Institute for Bulgarian Language, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

Croati



MARKO TAD

Department of Linguistics, University of Zagr

Cyprus



ORA LOIZIDOU

University of Cyprus

Czech Renubli



JAN HAJI

of Formal and Applied Linguistics. Charles University Prague

Denmark



BOLETTE SANDFORD PEDERSEN

Centre for Language Technology, Department of Nordic Studies and Linguistics, University of Copenhagen

₩ELG

- Austria: Dagmar Gromann, Zentrum für Translationswissenschaft, Universität Wien
- 2. **Belgium:** Walter Daelemans, Comp. Ling. and Psycholing. Res. Centre (CLiPS), University of Antwerp
- Bulgaria: Svetla Koeva, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
- 4. **Croatia:** Marko Tadic, Inst. of Linguistics, Faculty of Hum. and Social Science, University of Zagreb
- **Cyprus:** Dora Loizidou, University of Cyprus
- Czech Republic: Jan Hajic, Inst. of Formal and Applied Linguistics, Charles University in Prague
- 7. Denmark: Bolette Sandford Pedersen, Centre for Lang. Technology, Department of Nordic Research, University of Copenhagen
- 8. **Estonia:** Kadri Vare, Department of Language, Estonian Ministry of Education and Resear
- 9. **Finland:** Krister Linden, Department of Modern Languages, University of Helsinki
- 10. France: François Yvon, CNRS-LIMSI
- **Germany:** Georg Rehm, Speech and Language Technology Lab, DFKI
- 12. Greece: Maria Gavriilidou, ILSP, R.C. "Athena"

- **Hungary:** Tamás Várárdi, Research Institute for Linguistics, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
- 14. **Iceland:** Eirikur Rögnvaldsson, School of Humanities, University of Iceland
- **15. Ireland:** Andy Way, ADAPT Centre and School of Computing, Dublin City University
- **16. Italy:** Bernardo Magnini, Human Language Technology, Fondazione Bruno Kessler (FBK)
- 17. **Latvia:** Inguna Skadina, Institute of Mathematics and Computer Science, University of Latvia
- **18. Lithuania:** Albina Auksoriūtė, Institute of the Lithuanian Language
- 19. **Luxembourg:** Dimitra Anastasiou, Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology
- 20. Malta: Michael Rosner, Department Intelligent Computer Systems, University of Malta
- 21. **Netherlands:** Jan Odijk, Utrecht Institute of Linguistics, Universiteit Utrecht
- **Norway:** Kristine Eide, The Language Council of Norway Språkrådet
- 23. **Poland:** Maciej Ogrodniczuk, Institute of Computer Science, Polish Academy of Sciences

- **Portugal:** António Branco, Department of Informatics, University of Lisbon
- **25. Romania:** Dan Tufis, Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence, Romanian Academy of Sciences
- **Serbia:** Cvetana Krstev, Faculty of Mathematics, Belgrade University (UBG)
- 27. Slovakia: Radovan Garabik, Ludovit Stur Institute of Linguistics, Slovak Academy of Sciences
- 28. Slovenia: Simon Krek, Jozef Stefan Institute
- 29. Spain: Marta Villegas, Barcelona Supercomputing
- 30. Sweden: Jens Edlund, Speech, Music & Hearing/Språkbanken Tal, KTH Royal Institute of Technology
- 31. **Switzerland:** Hervé Bourlard, Idiap Research Institute
- **UK:** Kalina Bontcheva, Department of Computer Science, University of Sheffield



₩ELG

META-FORUM Conference Series

META-FORUM 2022 – June 08-10, Brussels, Belgium *Save the date!*

META-FORUM 2021 – November 15-17, virtual conference Using the European Language Grid – Save the date!

META-FORUM 2020 – December 01-03, virtual conference Piloting the European Language Grid

META-FORUM 2019 – October 08/09, Brussels, Belgium Introducing the European Language Grid

META-FORUM 2017 – November 13/14, Brussels, Belgium Towards a Human Language Project

META-FORUM 2016 – July 04/05, Lisbon, Portugal Beyond Multilingual Europe

META-FORUM 2015 – April 27, Riga, Latvia
Technologies for the Multilingual Digital Single Market

META-FORUM 2013 – September 19/20, Berlin, Germany Connecting Europe for New Horizons

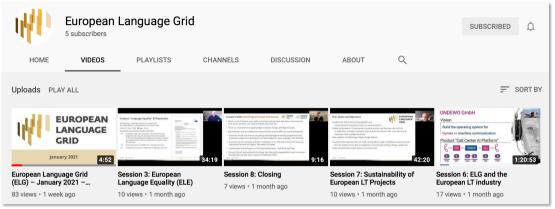
META-FORUM 2012 – June 20/21, Brussels, Belgium A Strategy for Multilingual Europe

META-FORUM 2011 – June 27/28, Budapest, Hungary Solutions for Multilingual Europe

META-FORUM 2010 – November 17/18, Brussels, Belgium Challenges for Multilingual Europe

All META-FORUM 2020 sessions and a five-minute screencast video explaining the current state of play of the ELG platform are available on the European Language Grid YouTube channel:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCarEHmsWT2JslcvvWkbhL4A





WELG

Open Calls for Pilot Projects

Two open calls for pilot projects

Open Call #1: 03/04 2020

Open Call #2: 10/11 2020

Pilot projects shall

Type A: broaden ELG's portfolio or

Type B: demonstrate usefulness of ELG

Up to €200,000 per project

Approx. €2,000,000 FSTP in total

Available in Open Call #1: 1.3M€

Available in Open Call #2: 585k€

Project duration: 9-12 months

Eligibility: SMEs, research organisations

Open Call #1 – Statistics

110 project proposals evaluated

• **Type A:** 79 – **Type B:** 31 proposals

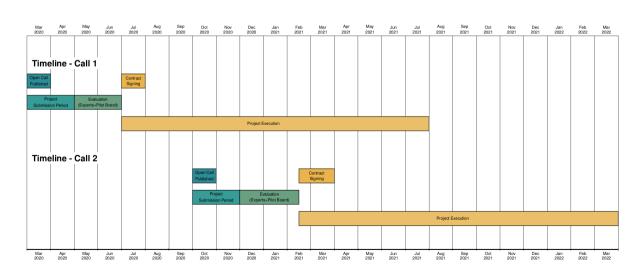
Total amount requested: 16.9M€

→ 10 projects selected

Open Call #2 – Statistics

106 project proposals evaluated

→ 5 projects selected





Open Call #2 Open Call #1	Fondazione Bruno Kessler	European Clinical Case Corpus	IT	139,370€
	Lingsoft, Inc.	Lingsoft Solutions as Distributable Containers 🗹	FI	140,625€
	Coreon GmbH	MKS as Linguistic Linked Open Data	DE	167,375€
	Elhuyar Fundazioa	Basque-speaking smart speaker based on Mycroft Al	ES	117,117€
	Universita' Degli Studi di Torino	Italian EVALITA Benchmark Linguistic Resources, NLP Services and Tools	IT	126,125€
	University of Helsinki	Open Translation Models, Tools and Services	FI	154,636€
	University of Vienna	Extracting Terminological Concept Systems from Natural Language Text	AT	132,977€
	University of Turku	Textual paraphrase dataset for deep language modelling	FI	166,085€
	Weber Consulting KG	Virtual Personal Assistant Prototype	AT	87,445€
	FZI Research Center for IT	Streaming Language Processing in Manufacturing	DE	132,160€
	Institute for Bulgarian Language	Multilingual Image Corpus 2021	BG	110,960€
	EDIA BV	CEFR Labelling and Assessment Services	NL	137,560€
	University of West Bohemia	Motion Capture 3D Sign Language Resources	CZ	85,421€
	Sapienza University of Rome	Universal Semantic Annotator	IT	113,228€
	Sign Time GmbH	Sign language explanations for terms in a text	AT	137,227€

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Example: Integration of the results of the project QURATOR into the ELG platform.





















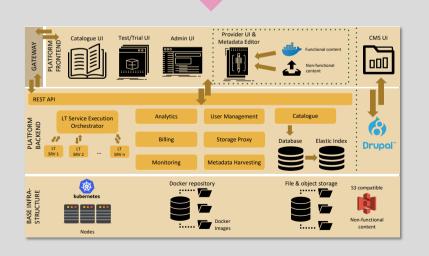




What does that mean?

- We created a page for the QURATOR project in the ELG catalogue
- We created for all QURATOR partners, too
- Two QURATOR services have already been made available through the ELG platform – their metadata records are associated with QURATOR
- More QURATOR resources will be made available in the future





Technologies Resources Community Events Documentation About

≪ Go to catalogue

Qurator

QURATOR – Curation Technologies. Flexible KI-Verfahren für die adaptive Analyse und kreative Generierung digitaler Inhalte in branchenübergreifenden Kontexten OURATOR

🔔 Proje

In all domains and sectors, the demand for intelligent systems to support the processing and generation of digital content is rapidly increasing. The availability of vast amounts of content and the pressure to publish new content quickly and in rapid succession requires faster, more efficient and smarter processing and generation methods. With a consortium of ten partners from research and industry and a broad range of expertise in AI, Machine Learning and Language Technologies, the QURATOR project, funded by the G... Read More

Keyword

LT area

Language Technology

Multilingualism

Coordinato

German Research Center for Artificial

@ Websit

Participants

ART+COM AG	⊕ Website
Condat AG	⊕ Website
3pc GmbH	⊕ Website
Fraunhofer FOKUS	⊕ Website
Semtation GmbH	⊕ Website
Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz	⊕ Website
uberMetrics Technologies GmbH	⊕ Website
Wikimedia Deutschland e.V.	⊕ Website
Ada Health GmbH	⊕ Website

Project information

⊕ Website

Project start date 2018-11-01

Project end date 2021-10-31

Funder

Federal Ministry of
Education and Research

Funding scheme category

TΔ

Funding country

Germany

Funding type

national funds

Grant number: Wachstumskern no.~03WKDA1A

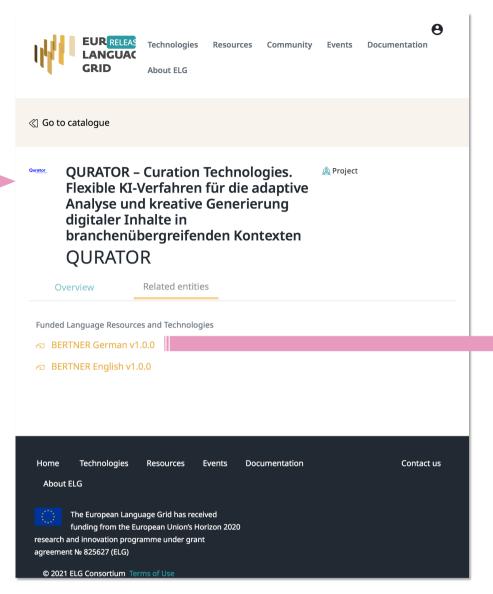
Status SIGNED

elated call

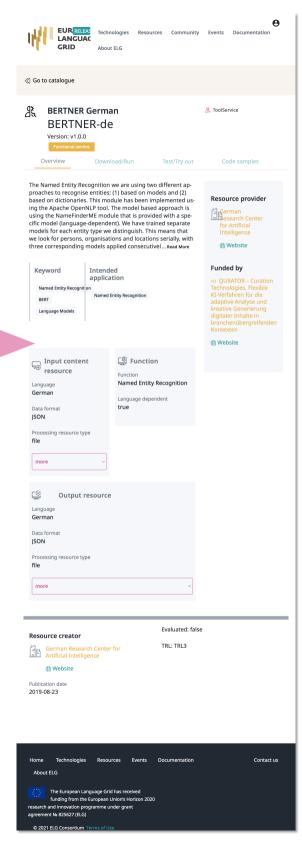
Wachstumskerne – Unternehmen Region

Related programme
Innovative regionale Wachstumskerne





Similar integration of services or resources can be done by companies or research groups: all members of the European LT community can make their assets available via the ELG platform!



European Language Grid: Sustainable Operational Model & Legal Entity

- ELG is supposed to be a long-term, sustainable initiative a legal entity is needed.
- The technical and operational requirements high availability and performance, SLAs, billing, support etc. create non-trivial costs: hosting; bandwidth; ELG team; legal; etc.
- · We've identified several ways and approaches of covering the costs on a long-term basis.
- Establish consensus for a sustainable operational model.
- Options: a) for-profit or b) not-for-profit company, c) association, d) foundation
- Business Model Canvas prepared
- First set of approx. 20 products defined
- Next up: market validation of the product ideas
- Q1/Q2 2022: Establish legal entity



ELG's Sister Project European Language Equality (ELE)





Consortium: 52 partners from all over Europe

Coordinator: ADAPT Centre (Dublin City University)

Co-Coordinator: DFKI

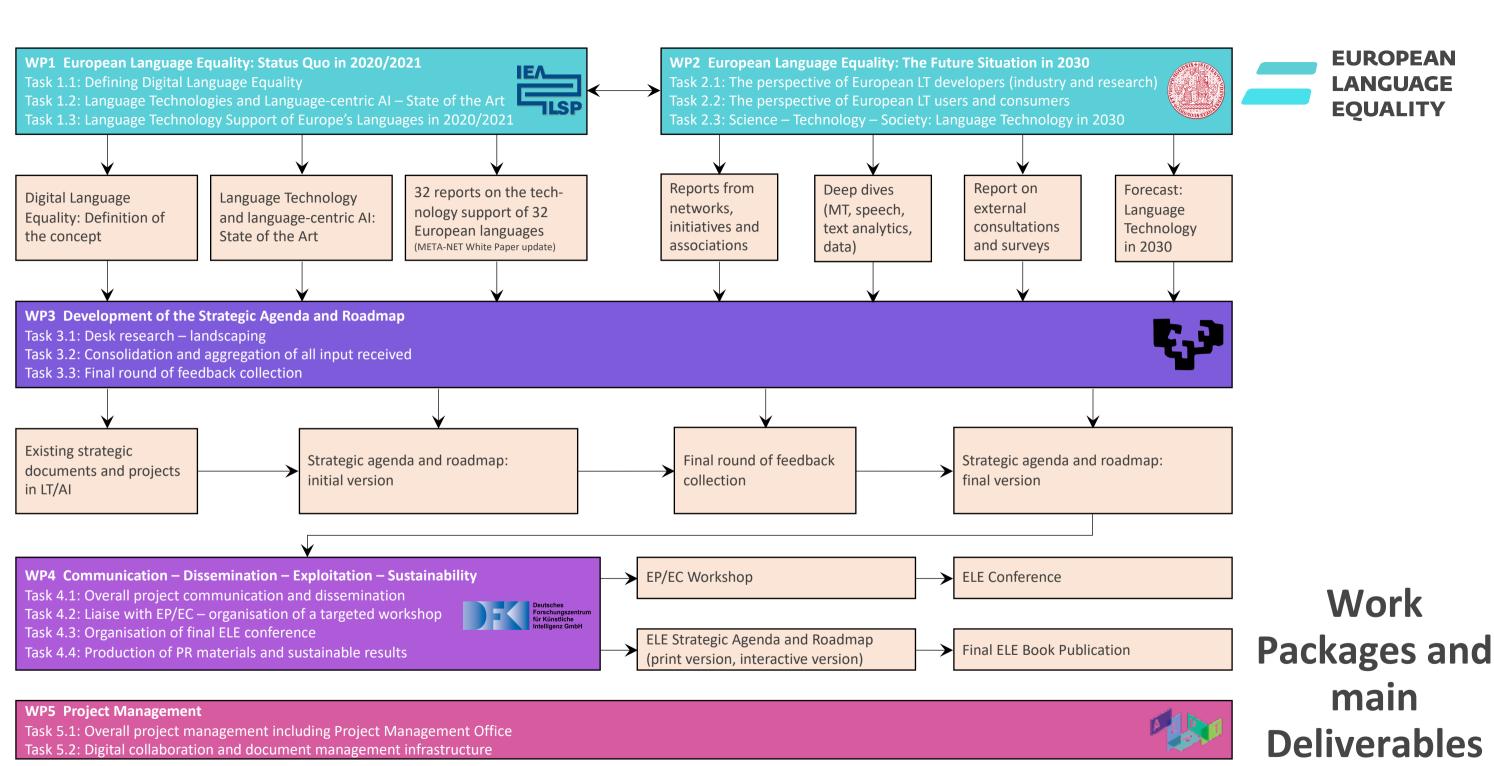
Objective: development of a strategic research, innovation and deployment agenda to achieve digital language equality in Europe by 2030

Runtime: 18 months – ELE and ELG will both finish up in June 2022 with a joint META-FORUM 2022

Started on 1 January 2021

http://www.european-language-equality.eu

We invite all language communities, all LT developing companies and all LT/NLP/Speech research teams to participate! Please participate in our two surveys – one for *LT developers*, one for *LT users* (URLs on the ELE website).









Developing an agenda and a roadmap for achieving full digital language equality in Europe by 2030 == E/LE/

Online survey for LT developers

Shape the future of Language Equality in Europe and participate now!

Online survey for LT Users and Consumers

Shape the future of Language Equality in Europe and participate now

Overview

With a large and all-encompassing consortium consisting of 52 partners covering all **European countries, research and industry** and all major pan-European initiatives, the **European Language Equality (ELE) project** develops a strategic research, innovation and implementation agenda as well as a roadmap for achieving full digital lan-

ausas sauslity in Eurone by 2020. The

Results

The main tangible results to be produced by the ELE project are as follows:

• The research partners will prepare updates of the 32 META-NET White Papers, which will also include the results of an enormous and exhaustive data collection procedure that will provide a detailed, empirical and dynamic map of technology

Motivation

The ELE project is a direct response to the resolution "Language equality in the digital age", which was passed by the European Parliament in a landslide vote -592 votes in favour and only 45 against in September 2018. The report provides more than 40 recommendations, including:

https://european-language-equality.eu



European Language Equality

Summary and Next Steps



- Establish ELG as the primary platform and marketplace for Language Technology in Europe.
- An initiative *from* the European LT community *for* the European LT community.
- European LT landscape is highly fragmented: ELG aims to provide just the right umbrella platform.
- Global market size by 2025 is enormous: we want the European LT community to be a key player.
- We want to increase the visibility and reach of all members of the European LT landscape.
- ELG is a long-term initiative: we will establish a **legal entity** for sustainability, which will operate and maintain the technology platform for the whole LT community as a joint marketplace.
- Contribute to **Digital Language Equality** in Europe by giving all our languages one virtual home and umbrella platform that collects **all** services and resources (**ELE**).



• Next steps: validation of ELG products; attach more data repositories; include ELG in relevant infrastructures (e.g., NFDI, GAIA-X); raise awareness of LT for Europe; organise META-FORUM 2021 and 2022; develop ELG Release 3 (early 2022); establish the ELG legal entity (late 2021).

WELG

European Language Grid: An Overview

Georg Rehm¹, Maria Berger¹, Ela Elsholz¹, Stefanie Hegele¹, Florian Kintzel¹, Katrin Marheinecke¹, Stelios Piperidis², Miltos Deligiannis², Dimitrios Galanis², Katerina Gkirtzou², Penny Labropoulou², Kalina Bontcheya³ David Jones Jan Roberts Jan Haijč Jana Hamrlová Lukáš Kačena Khalid Choukri Victoria Arranz Andreis Vasilievs⁶, Orians Anvari⁶, Andis Lagzdinš⁶, Jūlija Melnika⁶, Gerhard Backfried⁷, Erinc Dikici⁷, Miroslav Janosik⁷, Katja Prinz⁷, Christoph Prinz⁷, Severin Stampler⁷, Dorothea Thomas-Aniola⁷, José Manuel Gómez Pérez⁸, Andres Garcia Silva⁸, Cristian Berrío⁸, Ulrich Germann⁹, Steve Renals⁹, Ondrei Kleich⁹

¹ DFKI GmbH, Germany • ² ILSP/Athena RC, Greece • ³ University of Sheffield, UK • ⁴ Charles University, Czech Republic • 5 Evaluations and Language Resources Distribution Agency (ELDA), France • 6 Tilde, Latvia • ⁷ SAIL LABS Technology GmbH, Austria • ⁸ Expert System Iberia SL, Spain • ⁹ University of Edinburgh, UK

Corresponding author: Georg Rehm - georg.rehm@dfki.de

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Making Metadata Fit for Next Generation Language Technology Platforms: The Metadata Schema of the European Language Grid

Penny Labropoulou¹, Katerina Gkirtzou¹, Maria Gavriilidou¹, Miltos Deligiannis¹. Dimitrios Galanis¹, Stelios Piperidis¹, Georg Rehm², Maria Berger², Valérie Mapelli³, Mickaël Rigault³, Victoria Arranz³, Khalid Choukri³, Gerhard Backfried⁴, José Manuel Gómez Pérez⁵, Andres Garcia Silva⁵

¹ILSP/Athena RC, Greece, ²DFKI GmbH, Germany, ³Evaluations and Language Resources Distribution Agency (ELDA), France, 4SAIL LABS Technology GmbH, Austria, 5Expert System Iberia SL, Spain {penny, gkirtzou, maria, mdel, galanisd, spip}@athenarc.gr, {georg.rehm, maria.berger}@dfki.de,

{mapelli, mickael, arranz, choukri}@elda.org, Gerhard.Backfried@sail-labs.com, {agarcia, jmgomez}@expertsystem.com

The current scientific and technological landscape is characterised by the increasing availability of data resources and processing tools and services. In this setting, metadata have emerged as a key factor facilitating management, sharing and usage of such digital assets. In this paper we present ELG-SHARE, a rich metadata schema catering for the description of Language Resources and Technologies (processing and generation services and tools, models, corpora, term lists, etc.), as well as related entities (e.g., organizations, projects, supporting documents, etc.). The schema powers the European Language Grid platform that aims to be the primary hub and marketplace for industry-relevant Language Technology in Europe. ELG-SHARE has been based on various metadata schemas, vocabularies, and

Keywords: metadata, language technology, language technology services, language resources

1. Introduction

The rise of data-driven approaches that use Machine Learning (ML), and especially the breakthroughs in the Deep Learning field, has put data into a central place in all scientific and technological areas, Natural Language Processing (NLP) being no exception. Datasets and NLP tools and services are made available through various repositories (institutional, disciplinary, general purpose, etc.), which makes it hard to find the appropriate resources for one's purposes. Even if they are brought together in one catalogue, such as the European Open Science Cloud1 or the Google dataset search service2, the difficulty of spotting the right resources and services among thousands still remains. Metadata plays an instrumental role in solving this puzzle, as it becomes the intermediary between consumers (humans and machines) and digital resources

In addition, in the European Union, with the 24 official and many additional languages, multilingualism, cross-lingual and cross-cultural communication in Europe as well as an inclusive Digital Single Market3 can only be enabled and firmly established through Language Technologies (LT). The boosting of the LT domain is thus of utmost importance. To this end, the European LT industry needs to be strengthened, promote its products and services, integrate them into applications, and collaborate with academia into advancing research and innovation, and bringing research outcomes to a mature level of entering the market. The European Language Grid (ELG) project4 aims to drive forward the European LT sector by creating a platform and establishing it as the primary hub and marketplace for the LT community. The ELG is developed to be a scalable

1https://www.eosc-portal.eu

https://ec.europa.eu/digital-single-market/en https://www.european-language-grid.eu

cloud platform, providing in an easy-to-integrate way, access to hundreds of commercial and non-commercial LTs for all European languages, including running tools and services as well as data resources. Discovery of and access to these resources can only be achieved through an appropriate metadata schema. We present here the ELG-SHARE schema, which is used for the description of LT-related resources shared through the ELG platform and its contribu-

2. Objectives

The ELG project (Rehm et al., 2020a) aims to foster European LT by addressing the fragmentation that hinders its development; see indicatively (Rehm and Hegele, 2018; Rehm et al. 2016). To this end, it builds a platform dedicated to the distribution and deployment of Language Resources and Technologies (LRT), aspiring to establish it as the primary platform and marketplace for industry-relevant LT in Europe. The promotion of LT stakeholders and activities and growth of their visibility and outreach is also one of its goals. Together with complementary material in the portal (e.g., training material, information on events, job offerings, etc.), ELG offers a comprehensive picture of the European LT sector.

The ELG platform5 will offer access to hundreds of commercial and non-commercial LTs and ancillary data LRs for all European languages and more; these include processing and generation services, tools, applications for written and spoken language, corpora, lexicons, ontologies, term lists, models, etc. All resources are accessed through their descriptions in the ELG catalogue. LRT providers can describe, upload, and integrate their assets in ELG, and LRT

The European Language Technology Landscape in 2020: Language-Centric and Human-Centric AI for Cross-Cultural Communication in Multilingual Europe

Georg Rehm1, Katrin Marheinecke1, Stefanie Hegele1, Stelios Piperidis2, Kalina Bontcheva3, Jan Hajič4, Khalid Choukri⁵, Andrejs Vasiljevs⁶, Gerhard Backfried⁷, Christoph Prinz⁷, José Manuel Gómez Pérez⁸, Luc Meertens⁹. Paul Lukowicz¹, Josef van Genabith¹, Andrea Lösch¹, Philipp Slusallek¹, Morten Irgens¹⁰, Patrick Gatellier¹¹. Joachim Köhler¹², Laure Le Bars¹³, Dimitra Anastasiou¹⁴, Albina Auksoriūtė¹⁵, Núria Bel¹⁶, António Branco¹⁷ Gerhard Budin¹⁸, Walter Daelemans¹⁹, Koenraad De Smedt²⁰, Radovan Garabík²¹, Maria Gavriilidou², Dagmar Gromann¹⁸, Svetla Koeva²², Simon Krek²³, Cvetana Krstev²⁴, Krister Lindén²⁵, Bernardo Magnini²⁶, Jan Odijk²⁷ Maciej Ogrodniczuk²⁸, Eiríkur Rögnvaldsson²⁹, Mike Rosner³⁰, Bolette Sandford Pedersen³¹, Inguna Skadina³¹ Marko Tadić³³, Dan Tufiş³⁴, Tamás Váradi³⁵, Kadri Vider³⁶, Andy Way³⁷, François Yvon³⁸

DFKI GmbH, Germany • 2 ILSP/Athena RC, Greece • 3 University of Sheffield, UK • 4 Charles University, Czech Republic • 5 ELDA, France • 6 Tilde, Latvia • 7 SAIL LABS Technology GmbH, Austria • 8 Expert System Iberia SL, Spain • 9 CrossLang, Belgium • 10 Oslo Metropolitan University, Norway • 11 Thales Group, France •

European Language Grid: A Joint Platform for the European Language Technology Community

Georg Rehm1, Stelios Piperidis2, Kalina Bontcheva3, Jan Haijč4, Victoria Arranz5, Andreis Vasiljevs⁶, Gerhard Backfried⁷, José Manuel Gómez-Pérez⁸, Ulrich Germann⁹, Rémi Calizzano¹, Nils Feldhus¹, Stefanie Hegele¹, Florian Kintzel¹, Katrin Marheinecke¹, Julián Moreno-Schneider¹, Dimitrios Galanis², Penny Labropoulou², Miltos Deligiannis², Katerina Gkirtzou², Athanasia Kolovou², Dimitris Gkoumas², Leon Voukoutis², Ian Roberts3, Jana Hamrlová4, Dušan Variš4, Lukáš Kačena4, Khalid Choukri5, Valérie Mapelli⁵, Mickaël Rigault⁵, Jūlija Melnika⁶, Miroslav Jánošík⁷, Katia Prinz⁷, Andrés García-Silva8, Cristian Berrío8, Ondrej Klejch9, Steve Renals

¹DFKI GmbH, Berlin, Germany; ²R. C. Athena, ILSP, Greece; ³University of Sheffield, UK; ⁴Charles University, Czechia; ⁵ELDA, France; ⁶Tilde, Latvia; ⁷HENSOLDT Analytics, Austria; ⁸Expert System, Spain; ⁹University of Edinburgh, UK

Corresponding author: georg.rehm@dfki.de

Abstract

Europe is a multilingual society. in which dozens of languages are spoken. The only ontion to enable and to benefit from multilingualism is through Language Technologies (LT), i. e., Natural Language Processing and Speech Technologies. We describe the European Language Grid (ELG), which is targeted to evolve into the primary platform and marketplace for LT in Europe by providing one umbrella platform for the European LT landscape including research and industry, enabling all stakeholders to upload, share and distribute their services, products and resources. At the end of our EU project, which will establish a legal entity in 2022, the ELG will provide access to anprox. 1300 services for all European languages as well as thousands of data sets.

1 Introduction

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Europe is a multilingual society with 24 EU Member State languages and dozens of additional lan- deposit and upload their technologies and guages including regional and minority languages—and to deploy them through the grid. T and languages spoken by immigrants, trade particles also meant to support digital languages ners and tourists. The only option to enable and ity in Europe (STOA, 2017; European Pa to benefit from multilingualism is through Lan- 2018), i.e., to create a situation in which guage Technologies (LT) including Natural Lan- guages are supported through technologies guage Processing (NLP) and Speech Technologies well. The current imbalance is character (Rehm, 2017). While the European LT landscape stark predominance of LTs for English, is world class, it is also massively fragmented most all other languages are only marginal (Vasiljevs et al., 2019; Rehm et al., 2020d).

guage Grid (ELG) cloud platform.1 This scal- Rehm et al., 2014, 2016a; ELRC, 2019). able system is targeted to evolve into the primary

1https://www.european-language-grid.eu. We provide a screencast demo video at https://youtu.be/LD6QadkkZiM.

platform for LT in Europe. It will provide one umbrella platform for all LTs developed by the European LT landscape, including research and industry, addressing a gap that has been repeatedly raised by the European LT community for many years (Rehm and Uszkoreit 2013: Rehm et al., 2016b; STOA, 2017; Rehm, 2017; Rehm and Hegele, 2018; European Parliament, 2018). ELG is meant to be a virtual home and marketplace for all products services and organisations active in

the LT space in Europe (Rehm et al., 2020a). The platform can be used by all stakeholders case, share and distribute their products, tools and resources At the end of the EU ELG (2019-2022), which will establish a tity in early 2022, the platform will provid to approx. 1300 commercial and non-con tools and services for all European langu well as thousands of language resource ELG will enable the European LT comn

ported and, thus, in danger of digital language ex-We describe Release 2 of the European Lan-tinction (Rehm and Uszkoreit 2012: Kornai 2013:

Section 2 gives an overview of the ELG platform and related activities. Section 3 touches upon related work. Section 4 concludes the paper.

Towards an Interoperable Ecosystem of AI and LT Platforms: A Roadmap for the Implementation of Different Levels of Interoperability

Georg Rehm¹, Dimitrios Galanis², Penny Labropoulou², Stelios Piperidis², Martin Welß³, Ricardo Usbeck³, Joachim Köhler³, Miltos Deligiannis², Katerina Gkirtzou², Johannes Fischer⁴, Christian Chiarcos⁵, Nils Feldhus¹, Julián Moreno-Schneider¹, Florian Kintzel¹, Elena Montiel⁶, Víctor Rodríguez Doncel⁶, John P. McCrae⁷, David Laqua³, Irina Patricia Theile³, Christian Dittmar⁴, Kalina Bontcheva⁸, Ian Roberts⁸, Andreis Vasilievs⁹, Andis Lagzdinš

DFKI GmbH, Germany • 2 ILSP/Athena RC, Greece • 3 Fraunhofer IAIS, Germany • 4 Fraunhofer IIS, Germany • 5 Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany • 6 Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain • National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland • 8 University of Sheffield, UK • 9 Tilde, Latvia Corresponding author: Georg Rehm - georg.rehm@dfki.de

Abstract

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PROCEEDINGS

IWLTP 2020 – 1st International Workshop on

Language Technology Platforms

Coming up:

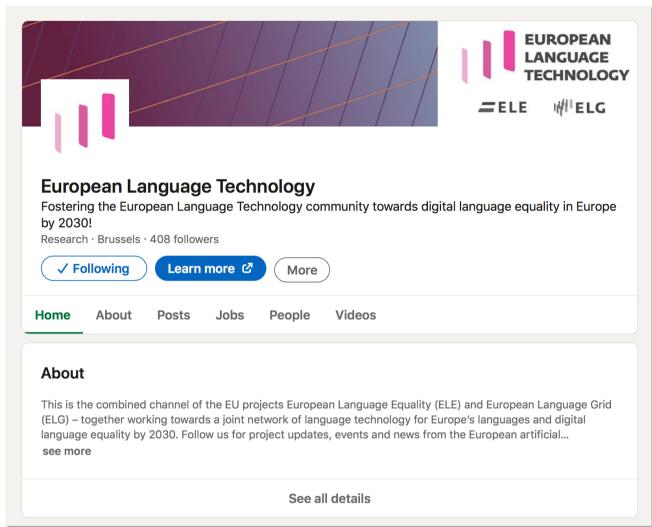
- European Language Grid book (2022)
- European Language Equality book (2022) Plus: ELG Online Documentation

Edited by: Georg Rehm, Kalina Bontcheva, Khalid Choukri, Jan Hajič, Stelios Piperidis, Andrejs Vasiljevs

₩ ELG

⁵The ELG platform has just been launched (alpha release) and will continue to be updated with new resources and functionaliti (official release dates are on April of 2020, 2021 and 2022.





https://www.linkedin.com/company/european-language-technology

https://twitter.com/EuroLangTech

https://www.european-language-technology.eu











European Language Technology

Not covered at all in this presentation: how to provide

Not covered at all in this presentation: how to provide

services or resources – slides can be provided, a YouTube

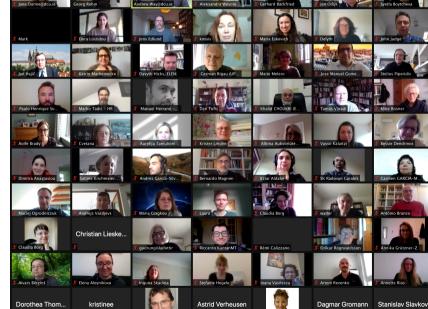
services or resources – slides can be provided.

tutorial video is currently being produced.

With many thanks to all colleagues in the ELG and ELE teams and consortia!







Thank you!



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Prof. Dr. Georg Rehm (DFKI GmbH, Germany) Coordinator ELG, Co-coordinator ELE

18-10-2021 ELG NCC Workshop Czech Republic & Slovakia http://www.european-language-grid.eu http://www.european-language-equality.eu