

Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism

Hi!

Balancing common language and multilingualism as drivers for equity, diversity and inclusion

Moderator: Henriikka Mustajoki

Panellists: Cissi Askwall, Marin Dacos, Johan Rooryck,
Laura Rovelli

15th July 2022



ESOF2022 LEIDEN 13-16
EUROSCIENCE OPEN FORUM JULY
CROSSING BORDERS, ENGAGED SCIENCE, RESILIENT SOCIETIES



ENRESSH



Federation of Finnish
Learned Societies



U!R Universities
Norway



Helsinki Initiative
on Multilingualism

Hi!

- The Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication was launched in 2019 to **foster an environment that values multilingual scholarly communication, science communication and open access to scholarly publications in all languages.**
- The long-term goal of the Helsinki Initiative is to ensure the continued availability of high-quality research published in all languages needed across the world for effective communication of research knowledge within and beyond academia.
- Signatories from over 70 countries agree that multilingualism in scholarly communication is an international, not just national or local concern.



Council of the
European Union

Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism

Hi!

CONCLUSIONS ON RESEARCH ASSESSMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF OPEN SCIENCE

10th of June 2022

- *ACKNOWLEDGES* that in order to accelerate the implementation and the impact of Open Science policies and practices across Europe, action has to be taken to... **encourage where appropriate, the use of multilingualism for the purpose of wider communication of European research results.**
- *ACKNOWLEDGES* the important role of multilingualism in the context of science communication with society, in particular on the national and regional levels; in this respect, **WELCOMES initiatives to promote multilingualism, such as the Helsinki initiative on multilingualism in scholarly communication"**

RECOMMENDATIONS



Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism



Hi!

1. Support dissemination of research results for the full benefit of the society.

- Make sure researchers are merited for disseminating research results beyond academia and for interacting with heritage, culture, and society.
- Make sure equal access to researched knowledge is provided in a variety of languages.

2. Protect national infrastructures for publishing locally relevant research.

- Make sure not-for-profit journals and book publishers have both sufficient resources and the support needed to maintain high standards of quality control and research integrity.
- Make sure national journals and book publishers are safeguarded in their transition to open access.

3. Promote language diversity in research assessment, evaluation, and funding systems.

- Make sure that in the process of expert-based evaluation, high quality research is valued regardless of the publishing language or publication channel.
- Make sure that when metrics-based systems are utilized, journal and book publications in all languages are adequately taken into account.

Cissi Askwall

How multilingualism supports broad interaction with society?

- Science in the Limelight more than ever
- Open Science a key tool
- Know and listen to your Target Groups
- Foster Science Capital and Source Criticism
- Counter Mis- and Disinformation

→ **Strengthen Democracy!**



energiantologi.se



Vetenskap & Allmänhet

Hi!

Marin Dacos

How can translations and new technology support multilingualism?



Measures

1. Generalize the obligation to publish in open access
2. Support open access economic publishing model
3. Encourage multilingualism



Extend the global influence of French research publications

- Develop tools to support multilingualism using semi-automatic translation
- Issue an international call for research into automatic translation
- Encourage the use of findings from French research in the global collaborative Wikipedia encyclopaedia.

Towards a shared platform for semi-automatic translation of research texts

- A shared platform at the service of the ecosystem
- Accessible to authors, publishers and platforms
- Disciplinary learning bases
- Room for post-editing by a publishing / translation professional
- Validated results would improve the learning base

Phase 1 - 2021: a working group and a first [report](#)

Phase 2 - 2022: Prefiguration case studies (budget 500K€)

Phase 3 - 2023: The big project?



Johan Rooryck

What funders can do to promote multilingualism?

- In line with Principle 10 of Plan S, funders can stress that they value the **intrinsic merit of the research output** and not the prestige of (English language) journals.
- -> National funders can stress that publication in the national language is valued in the same way as publication in English.
- Books and bibliodiversity:
cOAlition S academic books statement, Recommendation 5:
“cOAlition S funders should financially support Open Access of academic books via their funding schemes and open access publishing business models via dedicated arrangements.”
- -> National funders can promote multilingual bibliodiversity of academic books via funding schemes for Open Access books.

 Hi!

Johan Rooryck

What funders can do to promote multilingualism?

Funders can support **national Diamond Open Access initiatives that are most often multilingual:**

- HRČAK Portal (507 Croatian OA Journals)
- OpenEdition (France, 567 journals)
- *Calidad revistas científicas españolas* project (FECYT, seal of quality)
- Journal.fi (110 Finnish scholarly journals, Federation of Finnish Learned Societies)
- Openjournals.nl (Dutch platform for OA journals, founded by KNAW, NWO and the OPUS Foundation.)



The Diamond Open Access study has shown that **most Diamond journals are multilingual** while serving an international readership.

cOAlition S is participating in the DIAMAS project to federate and align Diamond Open Access journals in Europe. This project will pay attention to multilingual publishing of full texts and abstracts, discoverability of content, human translation services, and machine translation tools.

Laura Rovelli

How multilingualism fits in responsible research assessment?

- CLACSO-FOLEC Declaration of Principles on Research Assessment supports
 - Multilingualism and locally relevant research, Impact and interaction with society, beyond academia, the Helsinki Initiative
- Growing trend of Portugal and Brazil to publish in English
 - In 2020 (Web of Science), 95% of the total articles in scientific journals were in English, and 1% in Spanish or Portuguese.
 - In LAC, Spanish and Portuguese subsist as languages of publication,
 - regional infrastructure with its own indexing system ([Latindex](#), [SciELO](#), [Redalyc](#)), including thousands of predominantly university-based journals managed by the community itself with diamond or platinum open access.
- Ranking systems and accreditation of institutions use heteronomous assessment indicators
 - These indicators, based on international commercial services such as WoS and Scopus, only reflect a small percentage of quality publications in our region.
- New bibliodiverse assessment indicators must be created to support responsible assessment and the diversity of research outputs in the region
 - Successful case: the resolution (Res. 2249) for the Social and Human Sciences from the National Council for Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET, Argentina).



FOLEC

Foro Latinoamericano sobre
Evaluación Científica

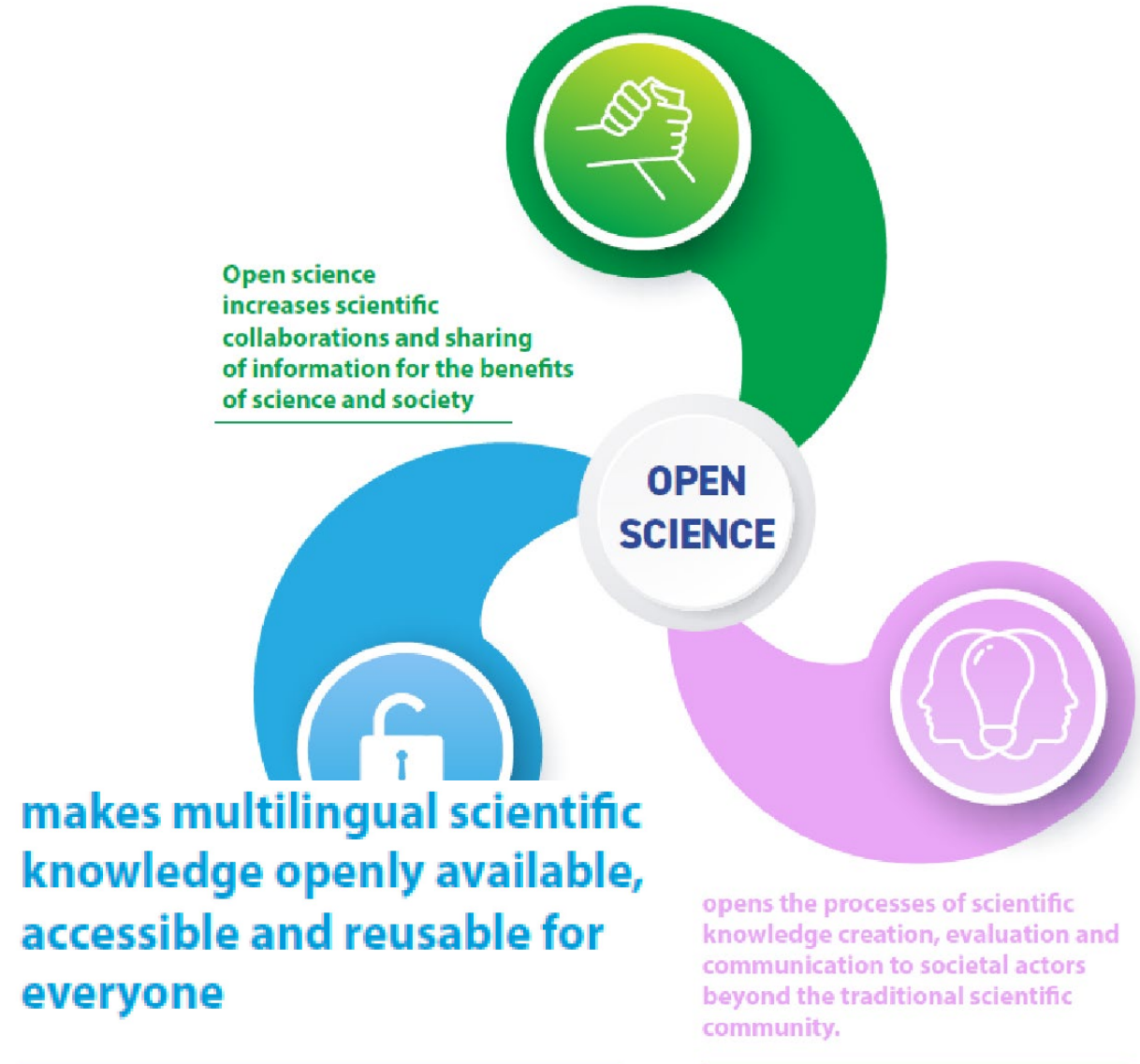


CLACSO

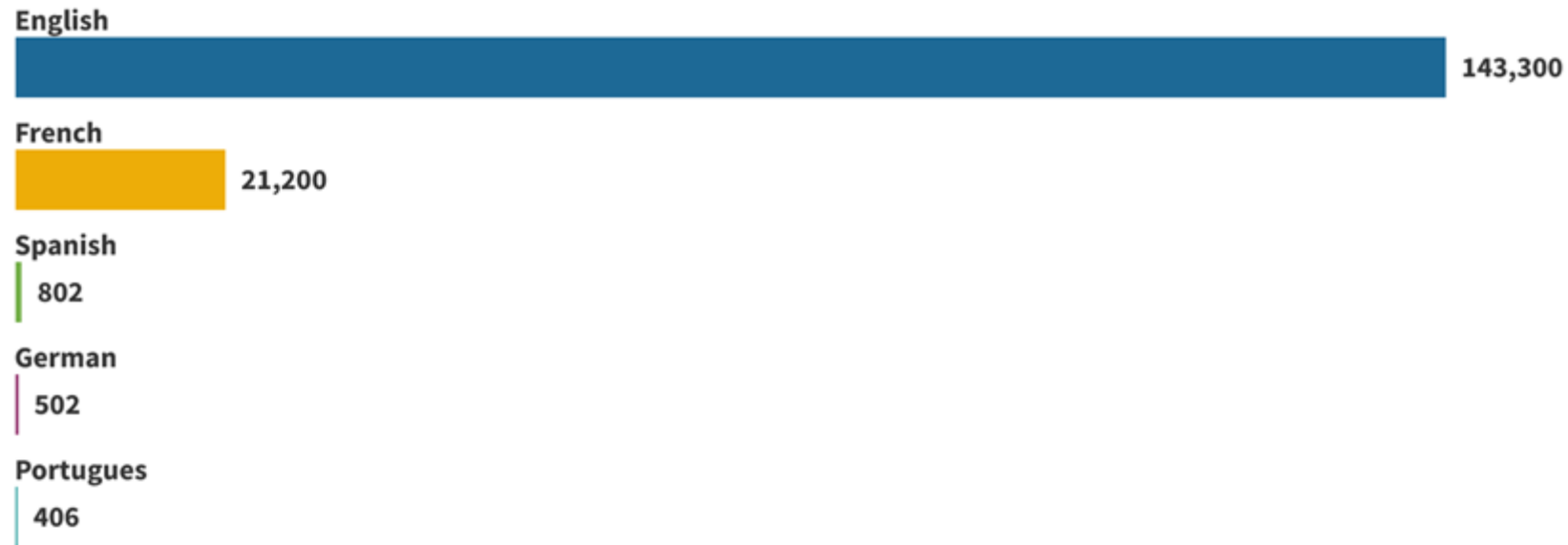
Hi!

Multilingualism is integral to Open Science

- It is important to communicate research results to international expert audiences according to the best practices and traditions of each discipline.
- However, if research is communicated exclusively in English, academia risks not fully meeting all its missions and responsibilities toward society.
- Broad access to scientific knowledge and interaction between science and society is possible only if scientific knowledge is produced, communicated and used in multiple languages.



Academic publishing in France is increasingly monolingual



Number of articles published in 2020 by language

France. Source : French Open Science Monitor

<https://frenchopensciencemonitor.esr.gouv.fr/publications/general?id=general.langues-ouverture>

Warning : only publications with a DOI.



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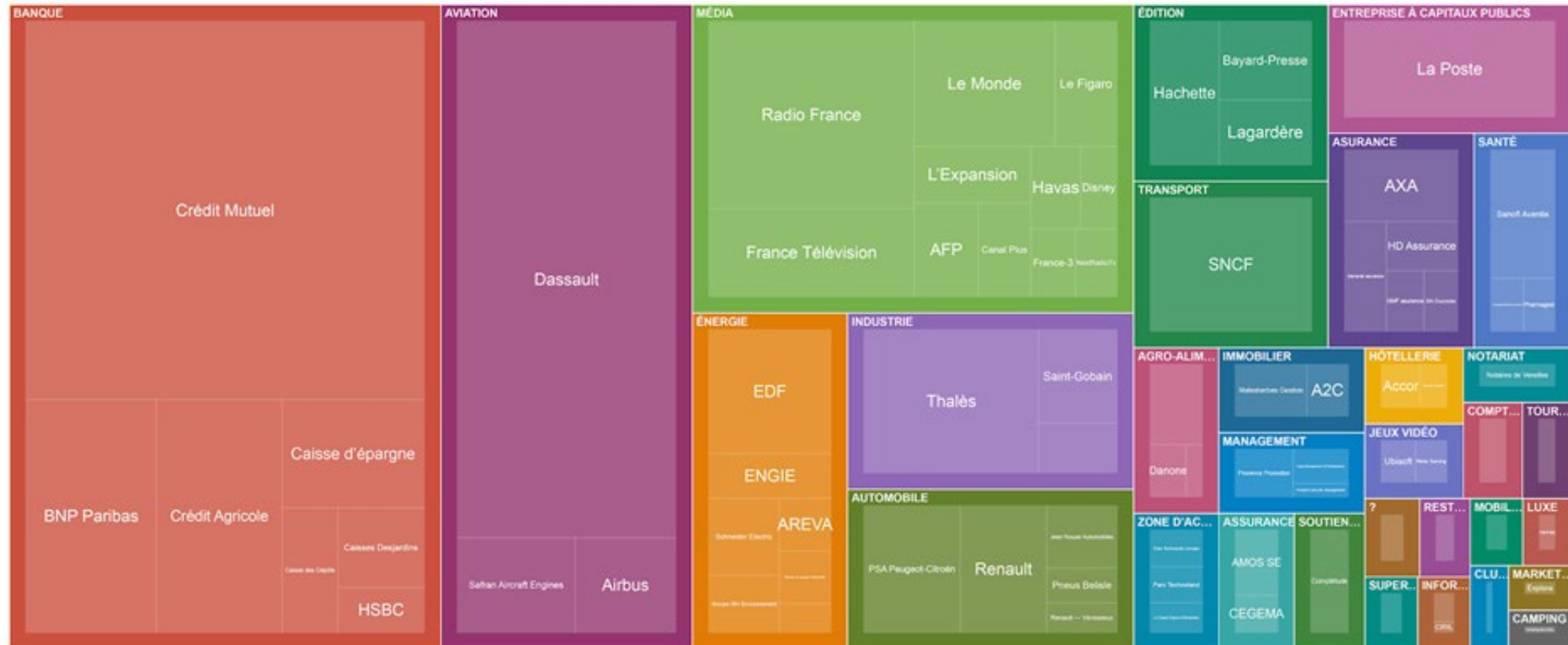
Students, professional and personal use are important

Type of Reach!	Approximate Proportion!			
	SciELO!	RedALyC!		
Students!	50%!	55%!	}	academic
University Staff!	25%!	22%!		
Professional Practice!	20%!	17%!	}	public
Personal Use!	9%!	6%!		

* This table represents a composite of the results derived from my interpretations of all the responses and data collected in my dissertation study. As such, the numbers should be treated only as approximations, and the percentages should not be expected to add to 100%!



Private companies also read open access HSS



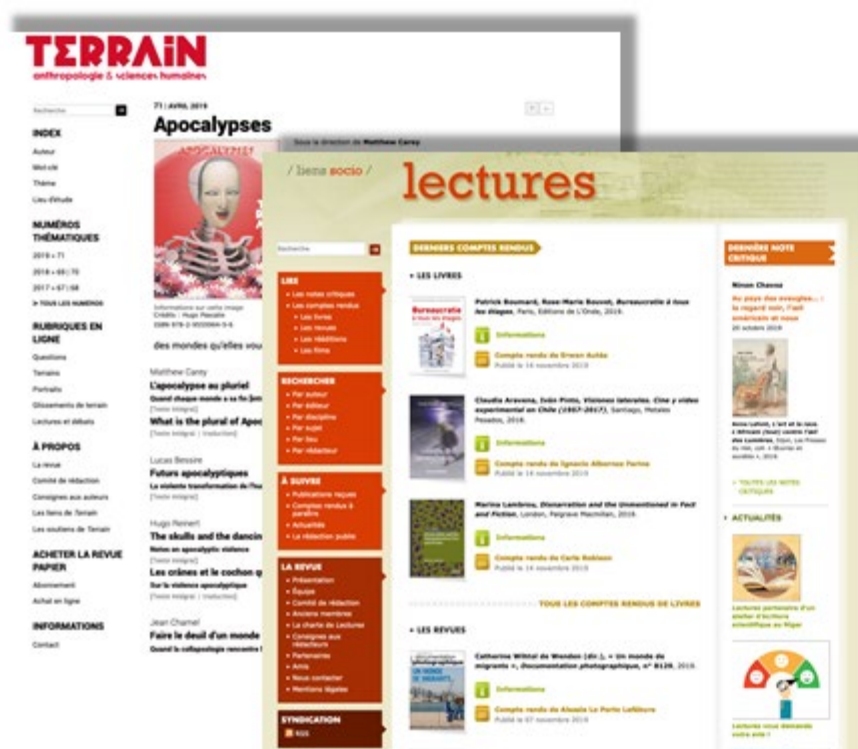
Thanks to open access, OpenEdition (Humanities and social sciences platform). For the bank Crédit Mutuel, for example, 99,003 accesses are identified over the period 2017-mid 2019, mainly covering 18,000 different articles. This is similar to the consultation of the University of Lausanne. Source: OpenEdition Lab research programme, Appropriation of open knowledge, funded by the IDEX of Aix-Marseille University. Publication to come.

More : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nqHsyXgWap8&t=46s>



Case study: the audience of four open access journals

French speaking journal



94% French speaking

26% French speaking and 65% Spanish speaking



Spanish-language journal

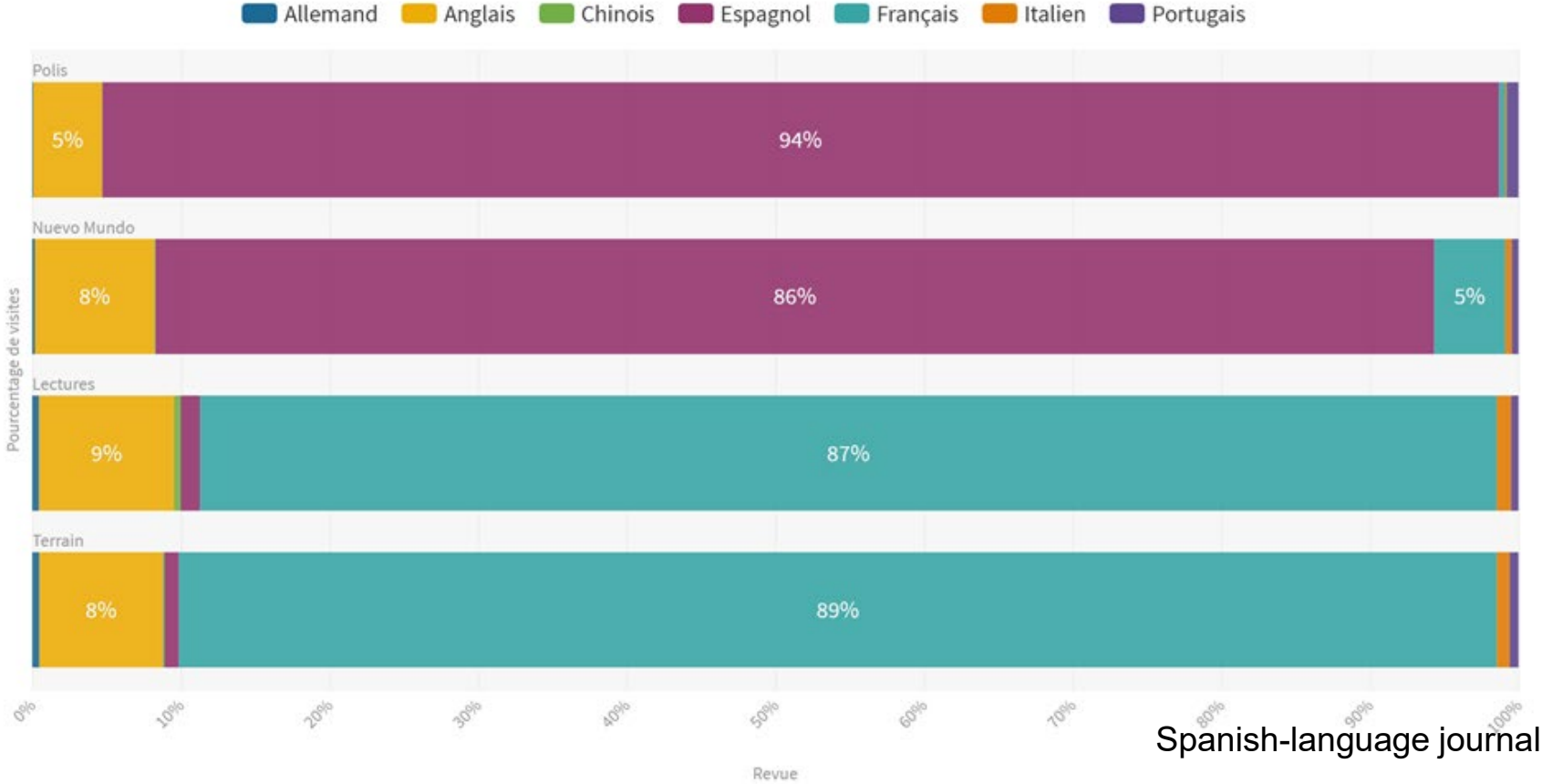


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ET DE LA RECHERCHE

Hi!

Traffic by browser language for 4 journals

Fréquentation par langue du navigateur pour 4 revues
Octobre 2019



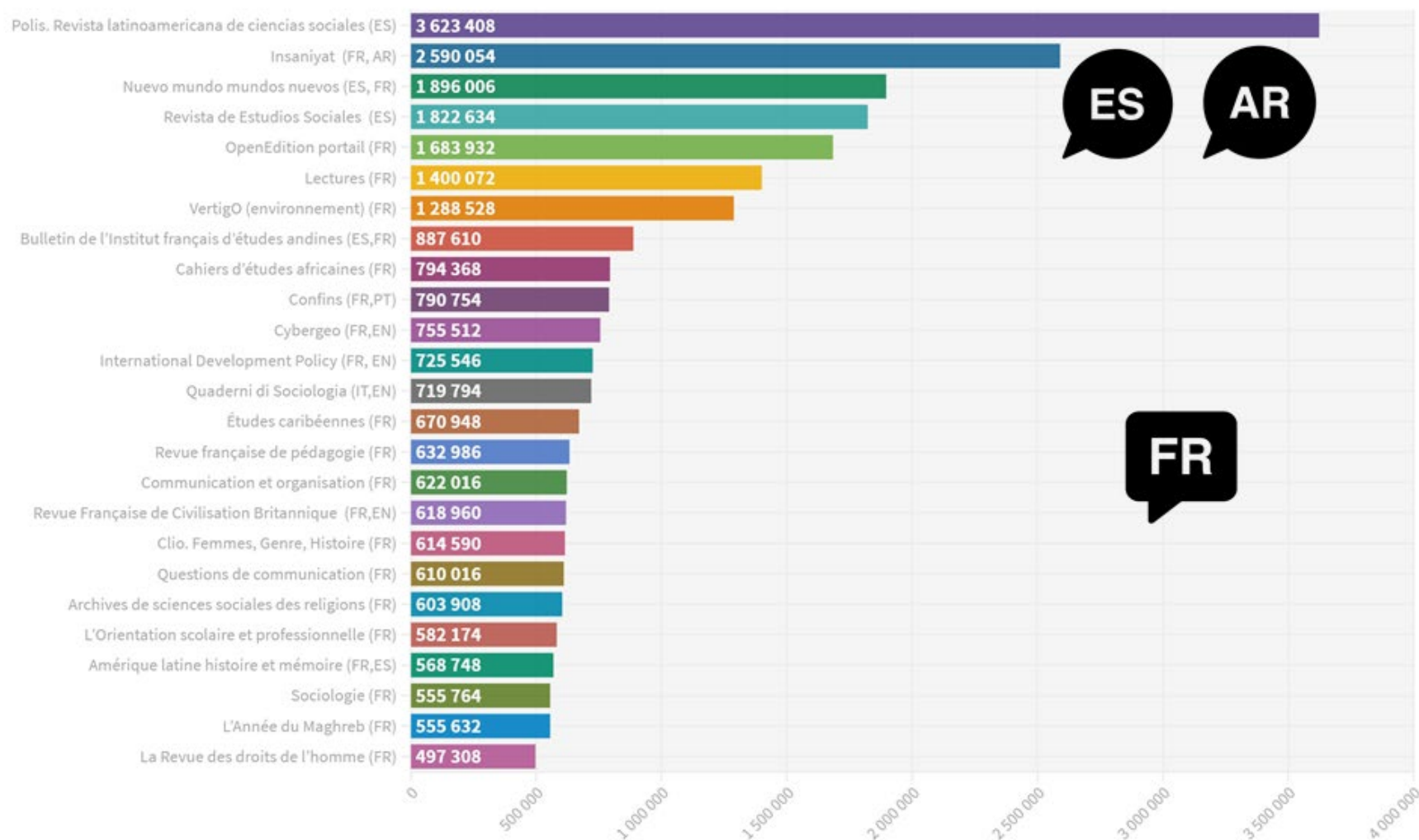
Spanish-language journal

Source : Matomo / OpenEdition



OpenEdition's top 25 journals and their languages.

In page views (2021 extrapolated)



Multilingualism is not only a question for Humanities and Social Sciences



Cochrane
Library

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Informed decisions.
Better health.

Cochrane Reviews ▼

Trials ▼

Clinical Answers ▼

<https://www.cochranelibrary.com/>



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Available Translations

Español	826
Français	562
Bahasa Malaysia	388
فارسی	315
Русский	272
Hrvatski	245
简体中文	195
Deutsch	183
日本語	182
繁體中文	145
Português	132
Polski	105
ภาษาไทย	102
한국어	95
தமிழ்	51

How lingua franca and multilingualism promote open science to bridge over existing barriers for knowledge transfer across disciplinary, geographical or societal borders in order to create resilient societies?

Academics publish in a monolingual world
This deprives us of an important audience.

Cissi Askwall

Research should be accessible to everyone. To accomplish that, lingua franca and multilingualism are complementary.

Marin Dacos

The 17 SDGs need both international knowledge in English and local knowledge in their own language. Multilingualism facilitator of cultural diversity and social relevant research.

Johan Rooryck

Laura Rovelli

Multilingualism promotes equity: the knowledge of perfect academic English should not be a pre-condition for participating in the scholarly debate.

COVID-19 Highlighted Global Value of Multilingualism

Vincent Larivière
Fei Shu
Cassidy Sugimoto
March 5th, 2020

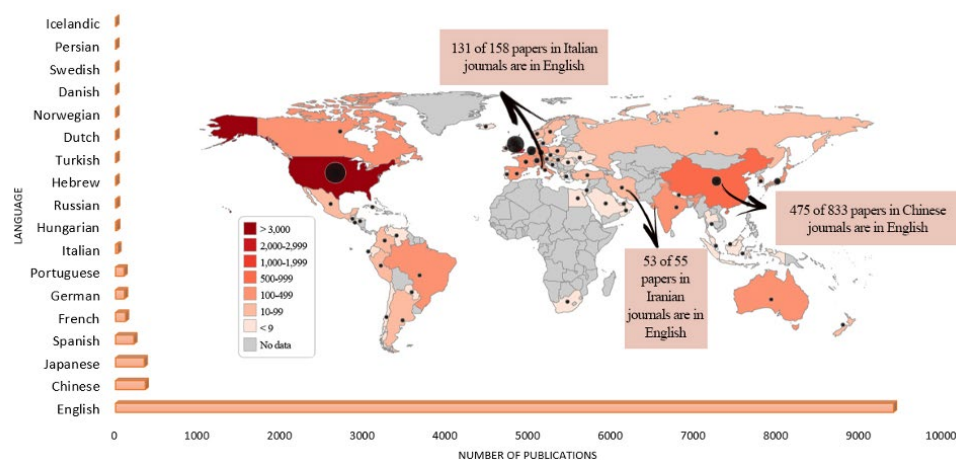
The Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak highlights serious deficiencies in scholarly communication

27 comments | 250 shares

Estimated reading time: 7 minutes

Zehra Taşkın
Güleda Doğan
Emanuel Kulczycki
Alesia Ann Zuccala
June 18th, 2020

Long read | Science needs to inform the public. That can't be done solely in English



- The COVID-19 pandemic saw a widespread need for multilingual communication between researchers, decision-makers, professionals and citizens.
- At its broadest, the impact of research can be global, but impact is always realized locally in societies where different languages are written and spoken.
- To cope with grand challenges and to meet sustainable development goals, we need both globalized and localized research communicated in various languages and formats.

How digital technologies, artificial intelligence, machine learning and virtual reality foster multilingualism in creating translations?

While we await more significant results in machine translation and artificial intelligence applied to translation, LAC is gradually advancing by adding metadata reflected in some repositories.

Marin Dacos

The cost of translation is tremendous. We don't have a choice than to explore automatic and semi-automatic translation as opportunities for multilingualism

Laura Rovelli

Authors and journal editors can help by providing lingua franca translations of the abstracts of their articles: abstracts in lingua franca can serve as a portal to the article.

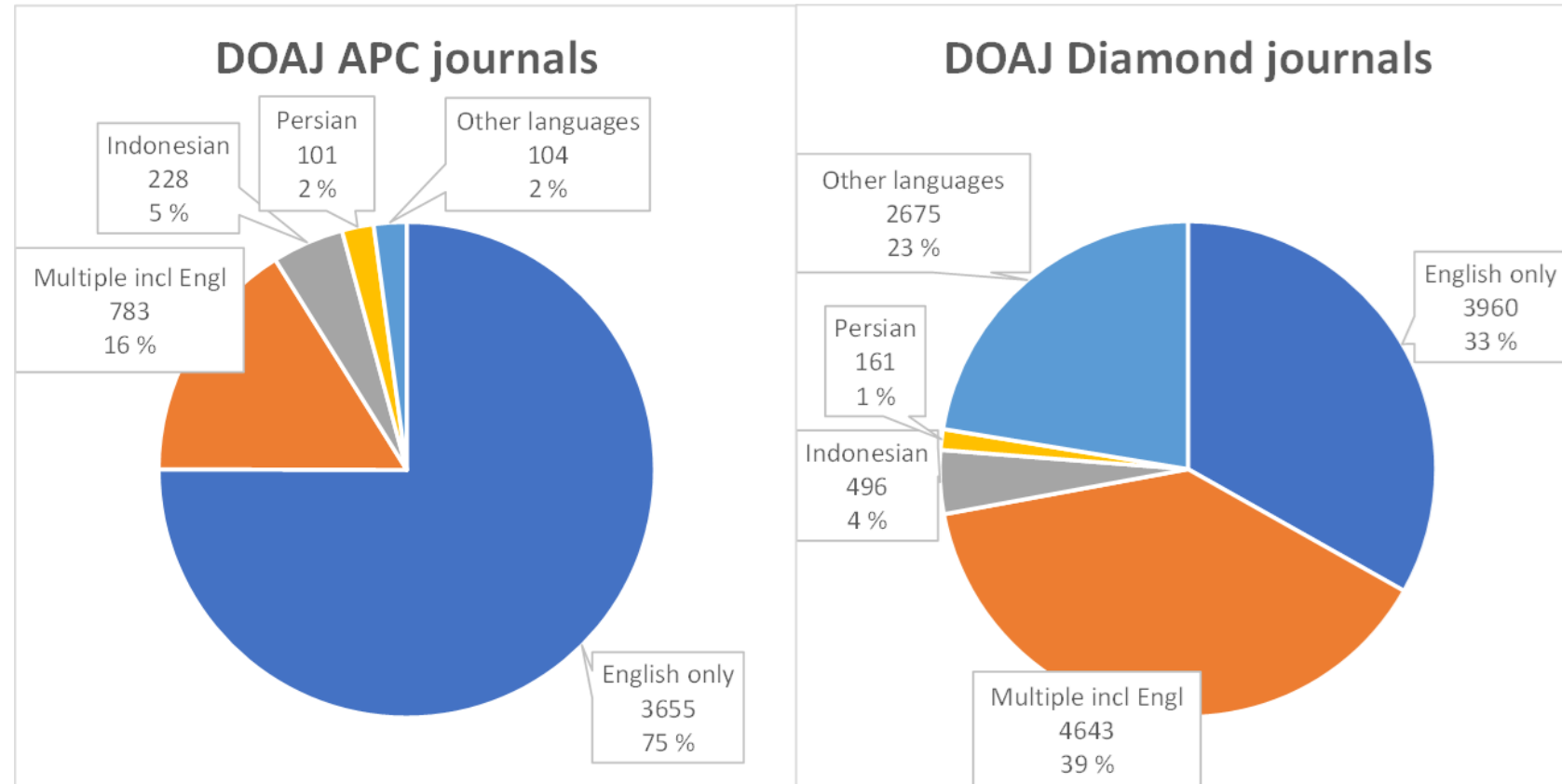
Cissi Askwall

New technologies help a lot, but to be useful beyond academia manual fine tuning is also necessary

Johan Rooryck

Diamond Open Access Supports Multilingual Publishing

- Diamond OA is practically the only option for non-profit journals publishing in languages other than English
- Article processing charges (APC) work mainly for international English language journals.
- Resources are needed also for supporting national language Diamond OA publishing as a common good.



What institutional structures need to be changed to foster and create the benefits from multilingual research in order to ensure diversity, equity and inclusion?

The incentives and reward systems must reflect the importance of multilingual research.

Johan Rooryck

Funders and universities should value multilingual publication in the same way as publication in English. Publication in English should not be associated with prestige.

Cissi Askwall

At this stage, multilingualism is considered by many as a threat to the publications in English.
And this creates fears concerning visibility and impact.

Laura Rovelli

Marin Dacos

Multilingualism recognition in RA; interoperable and federated OS infrastructures to nourish evaluation systems; financial support for the openness of publications and research data; necessary infrastructure and training of skilled human resources.

Including Multilingualism in Research Assessment Reform

Janne Pölonen

Emanuel
Kulczycki

Henriikka
Mustajok

Vidar Røeggen

December 7th,
2021

Multilingualism is integral to accessibility and should be part of European research assessment reform

Towards a reform of the research assessment system

Scoping Report

Helsinki Initiative
on Multilingualism

Hi!

Research and
Innovation



PROPUESTA DE DECLARACION DE PRINCIPIOS¹

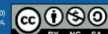
Una nueva evaluación académica para una ciencia con relevancia social en América Latina y el Caribe

1 Este texto forma parte de la Serie PARA UNA TRANSFORMACIÓN DE LA EVALUACIÓN DE LA CIENCIA EN AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE del Foro Latinoamericano sobre Investigación Científica (FOLEC-CLACSO), compuesta por tres documentos: Evaluando la evaluación de la producción científica, dedicado a reunir los elementos principales de los debates de fondo que atraviesan la evaluación académica en América Latina y el mundo; Diagnóstico y propuestas para una iniciativa regional, un documento propositivo que se ofrece como base a la discusión regional para la formulación de recomendaciones consensuadas por todos los centros miembros de CLACSO; y una Declaración de Principios que se pone en discusión para construir un horizonte común que de sustento a la iniciativa regional y su interacción con el mundo.

La Serie "PARA UNA TRANSFORMACIÓN DE LA EVALUACIÓN DE LA CIENCIA EN AMÉRICA LATINA Y EL CARIBE", producida en el marco del Foro Latinoamericano de Evaluación Científica – Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales (FOLEC-CLACSO), es promovida por la Secretaría Ejecutiva de CLACSO, Karina Battistini y coordinada por el Área de Investigación, dirigida por Pablo Vemmarino. Los tres documentos que conforman la Serie (Evaluando la evaluación de la producción científica; Diagnóstico y propuestas para una iniciativa regional y Declaración de Principios), han sido elaborados por Fernanda Beigel, especialista en evaluación académica e integrante del Comité Asesor de la UNESCO para la Recomendación sobre Ciencia Abierta. Conformaron el equipo de trabajo: Dominique Babini, Coordinadora de Acceso Abierto y Laure Rovelli, Coordinadora del FOLEC, con la colaboración de Paula Oliveira en la asistencia técnica y el equipo de diseño de CLACSO: Gustavo Lema, Director de Comunicación e Información, Marcelo Giardino, Coordinador de Arte y Jimena Zaza, Núcleo de Diseño y Producción Web.

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- Intended or unintended language priorities in assessment may
 - Compromise equal opportunities for individual researchers and institutions
 - Endanger locally relevant research and knowledge transfer beyond academia
 - Result in systemic undervaluation of SSH research compared to STEM fields in assessments and funding
- Ensuring that high quality research is valued regardless of the publishing language entails e.g.:
 - Taking into account publications outside the Web of Science and Scopus databases.
 - Engaging sufficiently diverse pool of experts and linguistic skills in the assessment panels.



33
Shares

How multilingualism as an essential part of academic culture must be incorporated in behaviours, values, expectations, attitudes and norms?

Authors should take pride in and be rewarded for publishing multilingually. Multilingualism is an individual and societal asset. There are more multilingual than monolingual people in the world: why not scientists?

Laura Rovelli

Johan Rooryck

Initiatives: ["ES-CIENCIA"](#); [International Alliance of Independent Publishers](#); [Asociación Latinoamericana de Editores Científicos -ALAEC](#);
CLACSO RA proposal: *-reward percentage of publications in Spanish/Portuguese with respect to the total output*
- encourage at least 1 publication in an indigenous language.

Money talks!

Marin Dacos

Cissi Askwall

This question is central. The transformation of the research assessment culture ambition to recognize the diversity of research outputs and activities. We talk about data and software, for example, but should also recognize translations.
In the end, multilingualism will be recognized if it is able to demonstrate true impact.

KEY TAKEAWAYS



Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism



Hi!

To ensure the availability and vitality of multilingual scientific knowledge in all researchers' and citizens' main languages, following actions are needed from the international and national stakeholders:

1. In science policy, recognize the value of multilingualism and balance international excellence with local relevance of research
2. In the public funding of Open Access, prioritize scholar-led non-profit Diamond OA publishers of journals and books in local languages
3. In research assessment reform, recognize and reward research published in all languages and address language biases in metrics and expert-assessment.

MORE INFORMATION



**Helsinki Initiative
on Multilingualism**



Hi!

Read and sign:

www.helsinki-initiative.org

Email:

helsinki-initiative@tsv.fi

Hashtag:

[#InAllLanguages](#)