



Helsinki Initiative  
on Multilingualism

Hi!

## MULTILINGUALISM IN SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION – WHAT WAY FORWARD FOR THE EU?

**BREAKFAST RECEPTION**  
Hosted by Henna Virkkunen



**24 March 08:00-09:30**  
**Member's Salon, ASP Floor 0, European Parliament**

**Participation in this event is by invitation only**

Multilingualism is particularly relevant for Europe, as its research is characterised by geographic, cultural and linguistic diversity. The EU and its institutions have a duty to enhance, promote and uphold linguistic diversity in Europe. Current EU science policies, evaluation protocols and monitoring tools do not embrace multilingualism as key requirement. Sustainable open access to research knowledge in different languages has to be a shared European concern. The Helsinki Initiative was launched in April 2019 to promote the diversity and value of multilingualism in scholarly communication: [www.helsinki-initiative.org](http://www.helsinki-initiative.org).

### Welcome and Introduction

#### Welcome

Henna Virkkunen (MEP, EPP Group)

#### Why and how should the European Union promote multilingualism in scholarly communication?

Emanuel Kulczycki (Adam Mickiewicz University Poznań, Poland)

Moderator: Lea Rynänen-Karjalainen (Federation of Finnish Learned Societies)

### Recommendations and Debate

#### Balancing international excellence and local relevance in EU science policy

– why Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI) and Open Science need multilingualism?

Gunnar Sivertsen (NIFU – Nordic Institute for Studies in Innovation, Research and Education, Norway)

#### Valuating multilingualism in evaluation of academic work

– how does the Helsinki Initiative complement the DORA declaration and the Leiden manifesto?

Tim Engels (ECOOM Antwerp, Belgium)

#### Monitoring multilingualism in European scholarly communication

– how to develop a comprehensive European Scholarly Publication Infrastructure?

Hanna-Mari Puuska (CSC – IT Center for Science, Finland) & Tim Engels

#### Providing resources for national journals and book publishers

– why sustainable Open Access needs technical and financial support?

Jadranka Stojanovski (University of Zadar, Croatia)

Founding signatories of the Helsinki Initiative are: Federation of Finnish Learned Societies (TSV), Committee for Public Information (TJNK), Finnish Association for Scholarly Publishing, Universities Norway (UHR) and COST Action "European Network for Research Evaluation in the Social Sciences and the Humanities" (ENRESSH)



Federation of Finnish  
Learned Societies



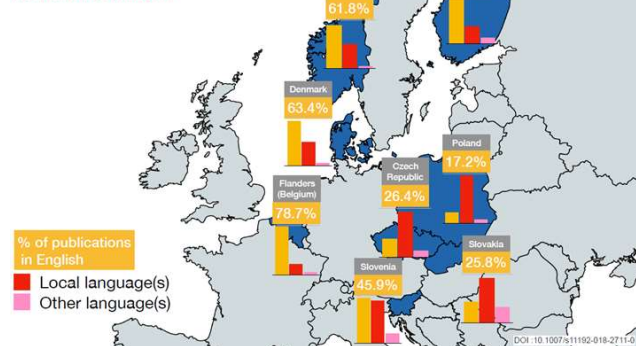
UHR Universities  
Norway



## Balancing international excellence and local relevance in EU science policy

- Multilingualism is invisible in EU science policies
  - EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation and the European Research Area
  - European Research Council
  - Responsible Research and Innovation (RRI)
  - Open Science Agenda
- Multilingualism keeps locally relevant research alive, enables pathways to societal impact, and promotes public understanding of science
- Internationalization policies must take into consideration differences between research fields and countries in use of English and national languages in scholarly communication

Percentage of peer reviewed publications in English, local language(s) and other languages in the social sciences and humanities in 2014



Kulczycki et al. (2018): <https://doi.org/10.1007/s11192-018-2711-0>

## Valuating multilingualism in evaluation of academic work

- Multilingualism is not promoted in responsible evaluation guidelines endorsed by many European institutions and policies
  - DORA (San Francisco declaration on research assessment)
  - The Leiden manifesto for research metrics
  - Metric tide -report
- Expert- and metrics-based evaluation and funding protocols should fully acknowledge multilingual dissemination of research
- European researchers should not be evaluated based only on databases (Web of Science and Scopus), in which multilingual work is invisible

Language patterns of article publishing on the researcher-level across countries

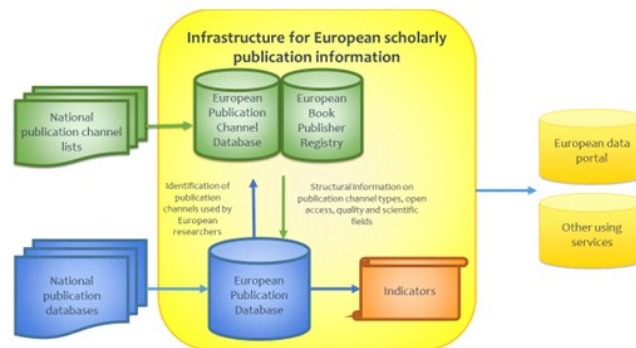
Researchers who published at least three articles in 2013-2015



Kulczycki et al. (2020): <https://doi.org/10.1002/asi.24336>

## Monitoring multilingualism in European scholarly communication

- EU currently makes no effort to monitor multilingualism in scholarly communication
- A European infrastructure comprehensively indexing and linking to European research has been envisioned but not accomplished
  - European Science Foundation (2009)
  - European Parliament Research Service (2014)
  - European Commission (2010, 2019).
- European Infrastructure providing comprehensive and curated publication information can be integrated from national and institutional information systems



Puuska et al. (2018): <https://doi.org/10.6084/M9.FIGSHARE.5993506>

## Providing resources for national journals and book publishers

- EU does not currently support its most valuable infrastructure enabling multilingualism: national language journals and book publishers
- Local publishers are vital for multilingual dissemination of research according to high standards of research integrity and quality
- Local publishers are often not-for-profit institutions or societies that need both technical and financial resources to enable open access
- European OA targets cannot be met sustainably without taking care of national publishers

Finnish publishers's share of the 14 Finnish universities' peer-reviewed publications 2016-2017 (N=48177)

Publisher	Share of journal & conference articles	Share of articles in books & monographs	Share of NOT openly available publications
Elsevier	16.7%	1.6%	16.3%
Springer Nature	12.6%	15.1%	11.6%
Finnish publishers	7.4%	34.5%	11.1%
Wiley-Blackwell	7.7%	1.9%	7.9%
Taylor & Francis	5.8%	10.9%	7.9%
IEEE	6.1%	0.3%	6.6%
Oxford University Press	2.4%	2.1%	2.5%
Sage	2.3%	0.1%	2.2%
American Chemical Society	1.6%	0.0%	1.7%
Other foreign publishers	37.4%	33.7%	32.3%