



EUROPEAN LANGUAGE EQUALITY

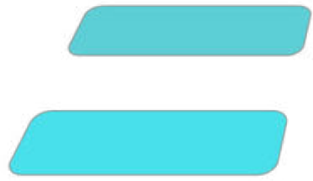


European Language Equality: Preliminary Results

The ELE Consortium

15/16/17-11-2021 META-FORUM 2021 – Using the European Language Grid (virtual conference)

<http://www.european-language-grid.eu>



EUROPEAN LANGUAGE EQUALITY

Consortium: 52 partners from all over Europe

Coordinator: ADAPT Centre (Dublin City University)

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

Runtime: 18 months – ELE & ELG will both finish in June 2022

Start on 1 January 2021

PP/PA (*not* Horizon 2020) – Pilot Project/Preparatory Action

Budget: 1,8M€ (Coordination and Support Action)

Nov. 2021: more than halfway through ...



Context: “Language Equality” EP Resolution

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

Selected Recommendations addressed by ELE:

25. Establish a large-scale, long-term coordinated funding programme for research, development and innovation in the field of language technologies, at European, national and regional levels, tailored specifically to Europe’s needs and demands
29. Create a European LT platform for sharing of services
27. Europe has to secure its leadership in language-centric AI

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 Union (TFEU),
- having regard to Articles 21(1) and 22 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union,
- 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

¹ OJ L 345, 31.12.2003, p. 90.

² OJ L 175, 27.6.2013, p. 1.

³ OJ L 318, 4.12.2015, p. 1.

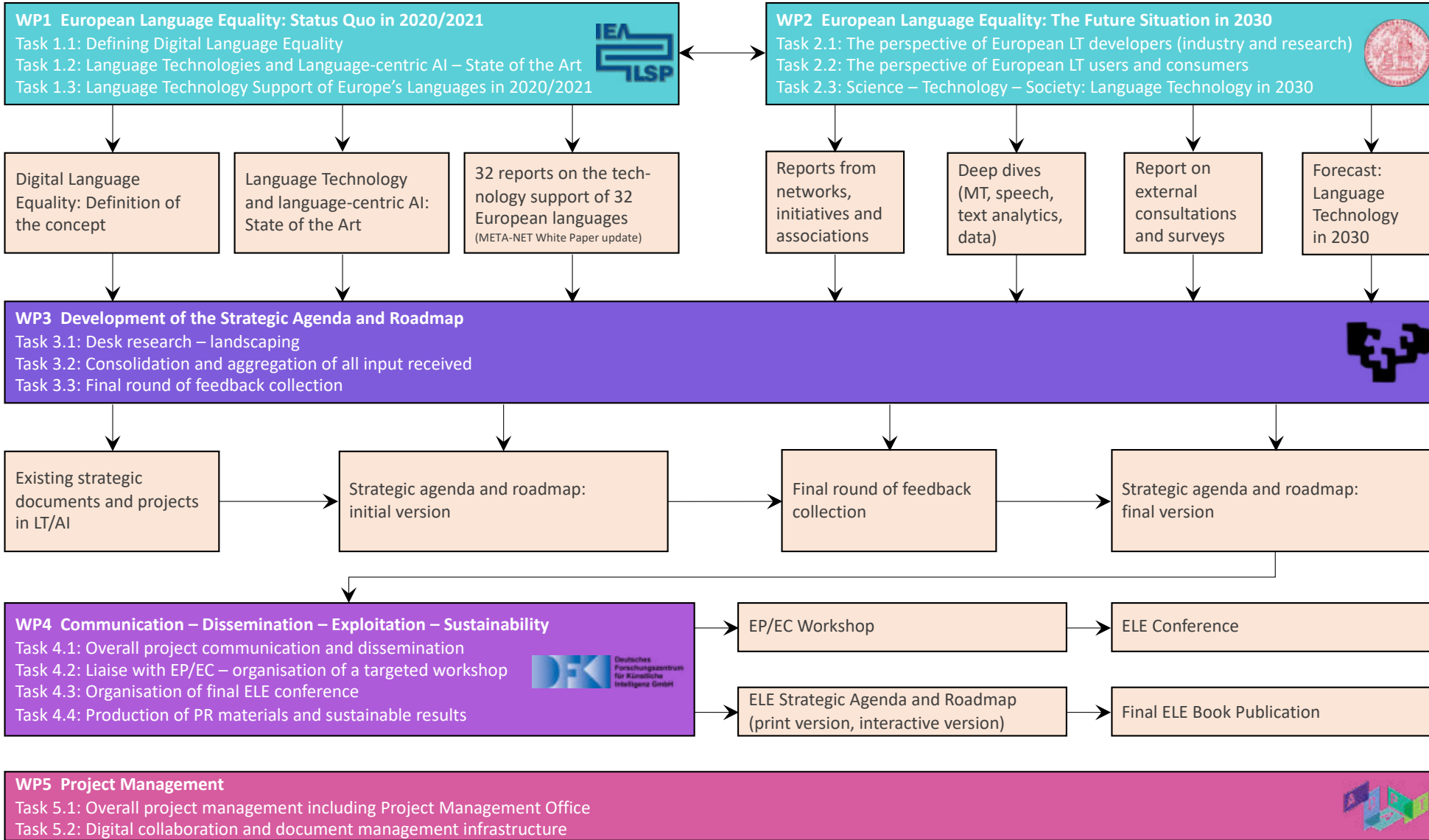
⁴ OJ C 320, 16.12.2008, p. 1.

Project Consortium with 52 Partners

- **5 core partners:** Adapt Centre, DFKI, Charles University, ILSP, University of the Basque Country
- **9 networks, associations, initiatives:** LT Innovate (via Crosslang), EFNIL, ELEN, ECSPM, CLARIN, CLAIRE (via University of Leiden), NEM (via Eurescom), LIBER, Wikimedia
- **9 companies:** Tilde, ELDA, Expert System, Sail Labs, Kantan MT (via Xcelerator MT), Pangeanic, Semantic Web Company, Ontotext (via Sirma AI), SAP
- **29 research organisations:** University of Vienna, University of Antwerp, Institute for Bulgarian Language, University of Zagreb, University of Copenhagen, University of Tartu, University of Helsinki, CNRS, Research Institute for Linguistics, Institute for Icelandic Studies, FBK, University of Latvia, Institute of the Lithuanian Language, Luxembourg Institute of Technology, University of Malta, University of Utrecht, Language Council of Norway, Polish Academy of Sciences, University of Lisbon, Romanian Academy, University of Cyprus, Slovak Academy of Sciences, Jozef Stefan Institute, Barcelona Supercomputing Center, Royal Institute of Technology, University of Zurich, University of Sheffield, University of Vigo, Bangor University

Approach

- Main result: Strategic agenda and roadmap – all deliverables provide input for these
- Research partners produce updates of the 32 META-NET White Papers (one report each).
- Networks and initiatives produce a report (one report each) in which they collect, consolidate and present their own position, needs, wishes, demands, visions etc.
- Companies produce four technical deep dives for the different technology areas.
- Several additional reports to be produced, primarily by the core partners.
- Number of languages taken into account: 77 – <https://european-language-equality.eu/languages/>
- Number of deliverables: 66 (already submitted: 8 – currently in production: 50)



Work Packages and main Deliverables

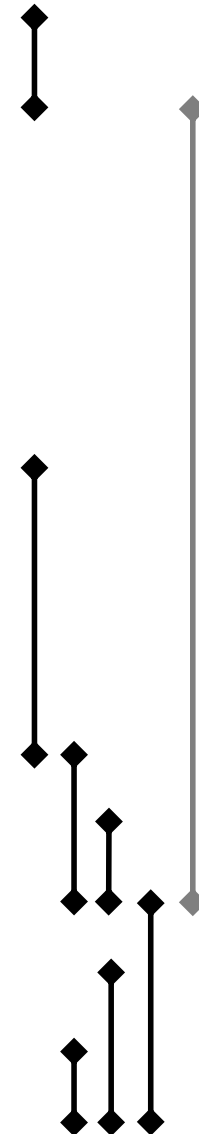
Digital collaboration and document management infrastructure (D5.1)

Start of the ELE project

Project mgmt. report (D5.2)

Project mgmt. report (D5.3)
End of the ELE project

M1	ELE kick-off meeting
M2	
M3	Digital Language Equality – preliminary definition (D1.1) Promotional materials and PR package (D4.1); project infrastructure (D5.1)
M4	Specification of the consultation process including templates, surveys, events etc. (D2.1)
M5	
M6	Communication and dissemination plan (D4.2)
M7	
M8	
M9	Report on the state of the art in Language Technology and Language-centric AI (D1.2)
M10	
M11	
M12	
M13	Digital Language Equality – full specification of the concept (D1.3)
M14	Reports on 32 European languages (D1.4-D1.35) Reports from relevant European initiatives (D2.2-D2.12); technology deep dives (D2.13-D2.16)
M15	Strategic agenda including roadmap – initial version (D3.2) Report on all external consultations and surveys (D2.17)
M16	Database and dashboard with the empirical data collected in D1.4-D1.35 (and others) (D1.36) Report on the state of Language Technology in 2030 (D2.18)
M17	Report on the final round of feedback collection (D3.3)
M18	Strategic agenda including roadmap – final version (D3.4) ELE EP/EC workshop (D4.3); ELE conference (D4.4); ELE book publication (D4.6)



Continuous inclusion of the community through various means (esp. meetings, website, email, discussion groups etc.)



External consultation and brainstorming meetings (both face-to-face and virtual)

Feedback loops to include input and comments from the Language Technology community

Timeline

Deliverable production is in full swing

Title	Owner	Last Modified ▾
ELE – Deliverable D3.1 (revised) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	an hour ago by german.rigau@ehu.es
ELE – Deliverable D1.20 (Language Report Irish) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	4 hours ago by teresa.m.lynn
ELE – Deliverable D1.6 (Language Report Catalan) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	5 hours ago by blancacalvofigueras
ELE – Deliverable D1.32 (Language Report Spanish) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	8 hours ago by David A. C. Manen
ELE – Deliverable D1.16 (Language Report German) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	9 hours ago by arios
ELE – Deliverable D1.14 (Language Report French) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	a day ago by francois.yvon
ELE – Deliverable D1.1 ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	a day ago by You
ELE – Deliverable D1.10 (Language Report Dutch) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	2 days ago by vincent
ELE – Deliverable D2.13 (Machine Translation) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	3 days ago by inguna.skadina
ELE – Deliverable D2.14 (Speech) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	4 days ago by marcin.skowron
ELE – Deliverable D1.2 ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	5 days ago by german.rigau@ehu.es
ELE – Deliverable D1.8 (Language Report Czech) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	5 days ago by hlavacova
ELE – Deliverable D1.4 (Language Report Basque) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	7 days ago by kepa.sarasola
ELE – Deliverable D1.22 (Language Report Latvian) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	7 days ago by inguna.skadina
ELE – Deliverable D2.12 (Report from Wikipedia) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	7 days ago by Maria Heuschkel
ELE – Deliverable D2.3 (Report from CLARIN) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	14 days ago by Maria Giagkou
ELE – Deliverable D2.10 (Report from LIBER) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	18 days ago by Oliver Blake
ELE – Deliverable D2.7 (Report from ECSPM) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	18 days ago by Natalia Resende
ELE – Deliverable D2.11 (Report from NEM) ● ELE Deliverables ×	You	18 days ago by Natalia Resende

Session 5: European Language Equality

09:00 **Overview** – Andy Way (DCU, Ireland) and Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany)

Preliminary results of the ELE project

09:15 **Overview of LT/AI Strategies in Europe** – German Rigau (Univ. of the Basque Country, Spain)

09:30 **Defining Digital Language Equality** – Federico Gaspari (Dublin City University, Ireland)

09:45 **LRT Collection and Language Reports** – Maria Giagkou (ILSP, R.C. “Athena”, Greece)

10:00 **European LT Developers Survey** – Maria Giagkou (ILSP, R.C. “Athena”, Greece)

10:10 **European LT Users Survey** – Natalia Resende (Dublin City University, Ireland)

10:20 *Discussion*

10:30 **End of Session 5**