



New Perspectives on Language Competences: from Literacy to Multilingualism

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What are we going to discuss?

1. Fundamental EU principles
2. Multilingual societies
3. Language learning and literacy
4. Two new Council Recommendations
5. How can the EU help?



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Treaty of Maastricht 1992: European Union

EC Treaty

Article 149

To contribute to the development of quality **education** by encouraging cooperation between Member States and, if necessary, by supporting and supplementing their action.

Article 150

To implement a **vocational training** policy which supports and supplements the action of the Member States.

Article 151

To contribute to the flowering of the **cultures** of the Member States, while respecting their national and regional diversity and at the same time bringing their common cultural heritage to the fore.

24 official languages

1958

Dutch
French
German
Italian

1973

Danish
English

1981

Greek

1986

Portuguese
Spanish

1995

Finnish
Swedish

2004

Czech
Estonian
Hungarian
Latvian
Lithuanian
Maltese
Polish
Slovak
Slovene

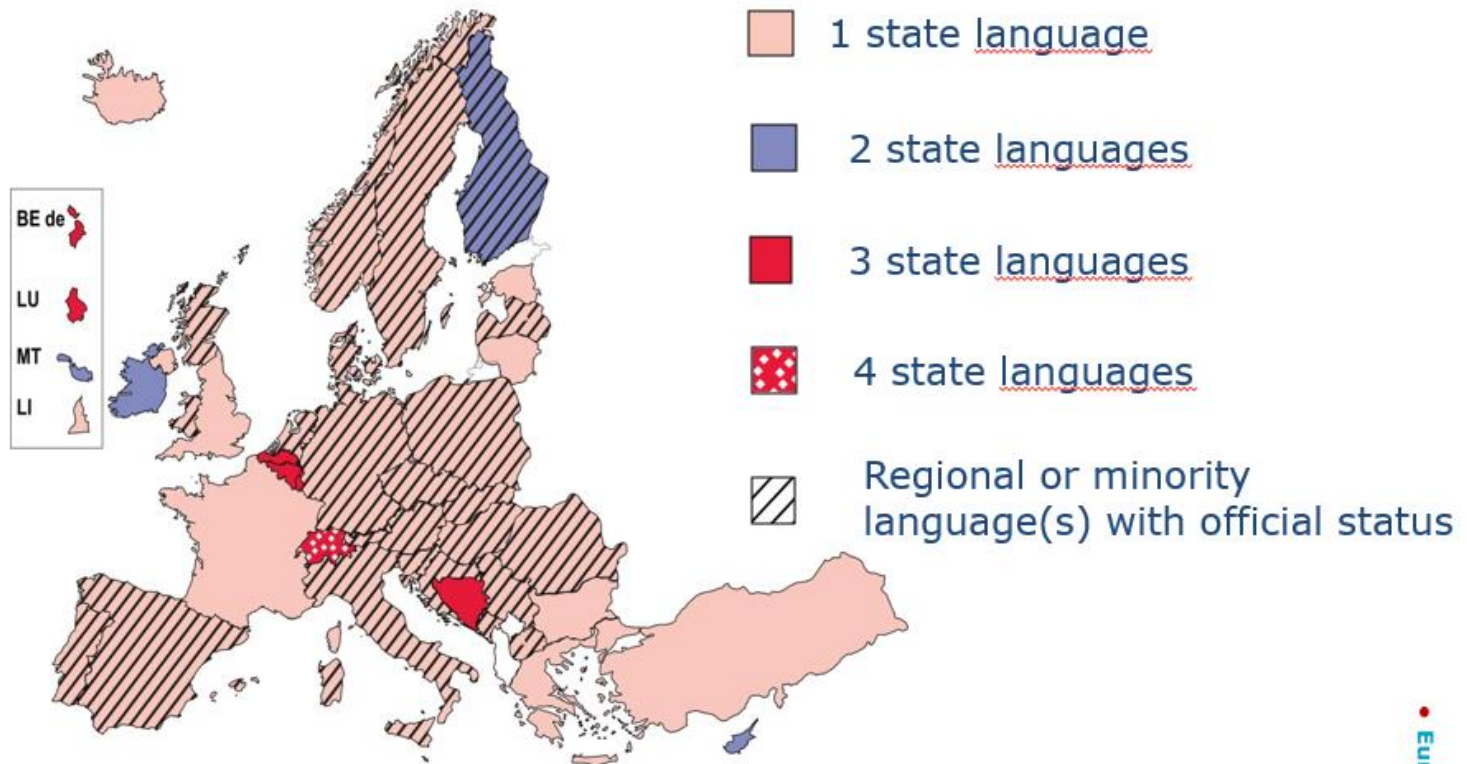
2007

Bulgarian
Irish
Romanian

2013

Croatian

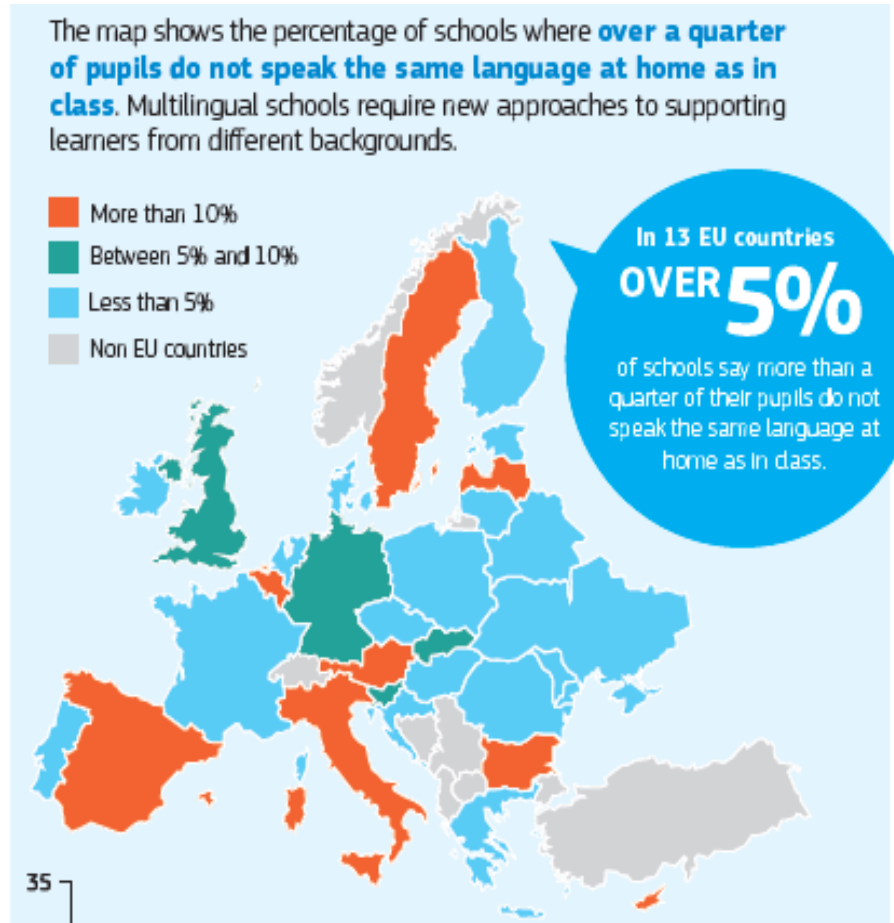
State and official languages



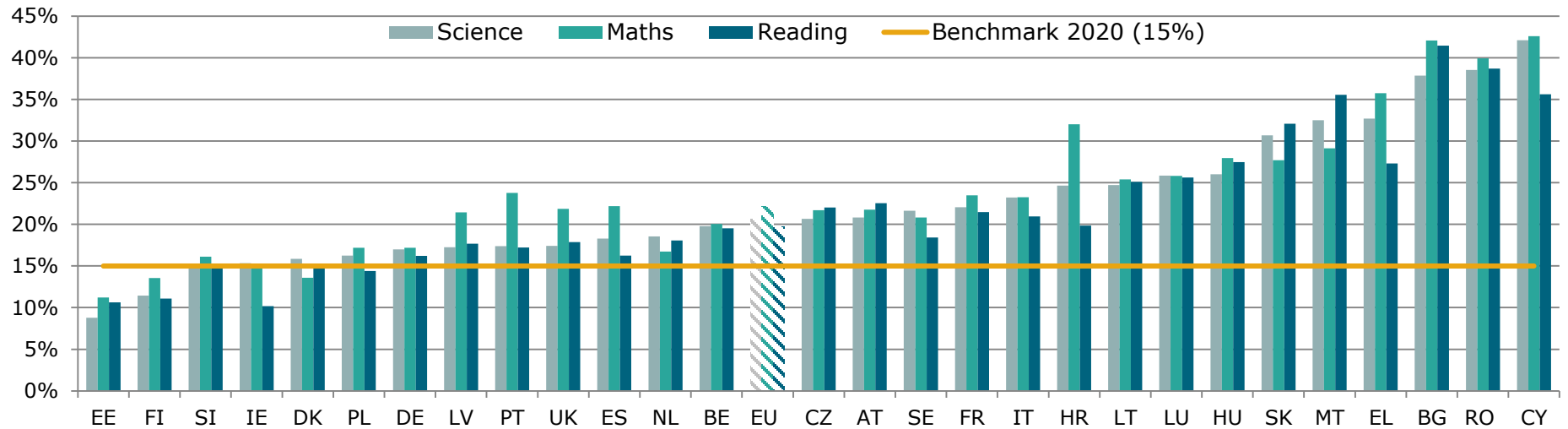
Source: Eurydice.

Schools are getting increasingly multilingual...

Source: OECD - PISA data 2012



One in five young Europeans lacks basic skills





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Thematic expert panels on • languages and literacies

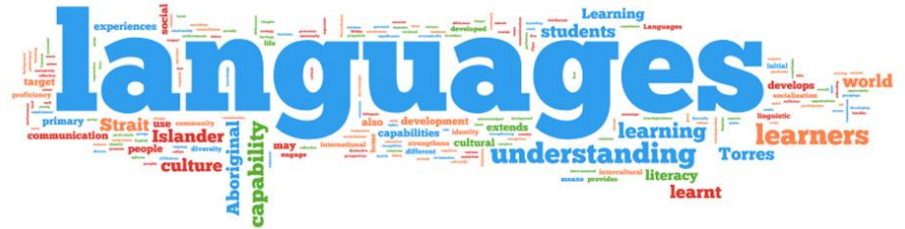
➤ Rethinking language education and linguistic diversity in schools



➤ Migrants in European schools:
learning and maintaining languages

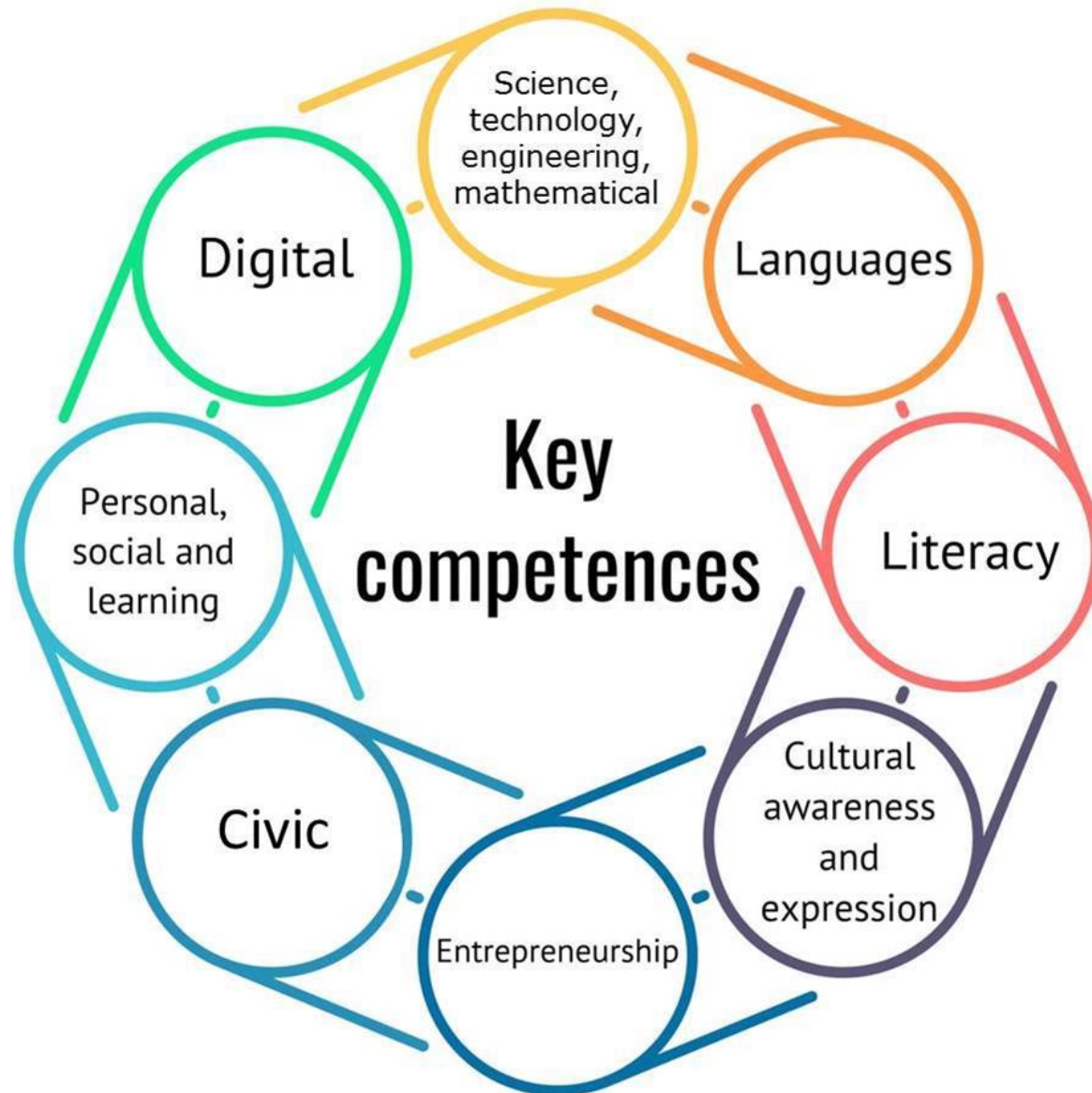


LITERACY



languages

- **stressing the importance of literacy**
- ambiguity of the concepts of "mother tongue" & "foreign language"
- more focus on multilingualism and cultural diversity
- **focus on language development overall**



Juncker in Göteborg 17. November 2017

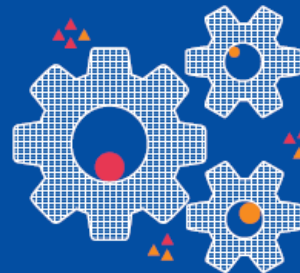


Europäische
Kommission

Stärkung der europäischen Identität durch Bildung und Kultur

Beitrag der Kommission zum Arbeitsessen der Spitzenvertreter
Göteborg, 17. November 2017

#FutureOfEurope #EUroad2Sibiu





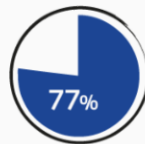
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EUROPEANS AND LANGUAGES

What young people say about languages:



I could not study in a foreign language



I would like to learn a new language



I already learned a foreign language but would like to improve it

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Source: Flash Eurobarometer 466 – European Education Area 2018 – Eurydice Brief on teaching languages at school in Europe, https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/-eurydice/images/0/06/KDL_2017_internet.pdf



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EUROPEANS AND LANGUAGES

Statistics show that:

1ST FOREIGN LANGUAGE

is almost a basic skill

97% of pupils learn



2ND FOREIGN LANGUAGE

is not compulsory everywhere or can be dropped after 3-4 years



9%



of all 15-year olds in the EU speak a different language at home than at school

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Source: Flash Eurobarometer 466 – European Education Area 2018 – Eurydice Brief on teaching languages at school in Europe, https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/-eurydice/images/0/06/KDL_2017_internet.pdf



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Our goal:

At the end of upper secondary school
young people should be able to:

- 1) Fully use the language of schooling**
- 2) Fully use another European language**
- 3) Confidently use a third language**

Main avenues towards change

- **Language awareness**
- **Innovative, inclusive and multilingual pedagogies**
- **Support all teachers and school leaders**
All teachers are languages teachers.



NEW PROGRAMME (2021-2027) – Successor of Erasmus+



"I am very proud that this Commission has proposed to double the budget for Erasmus – this is by far the biggest increase for any programme in the EU budget we have tabled. We need to be bold.

This programme will support the big ambitions we have for empowering young people, building a European Education Area and strengthening our European identity.

I call on Member States and the European Parliament to support us and make sure we can build the best future for our citizens."

(Tibor Navracsics, European Commissioner for education, culture, youth and sport)



A word cloud of the word "thank you" in various languages and scripts. The words are arranged in a roughly circular shape, with "thank you" being the largest and most central. Other prominent words include "danke", "gracias", "merci", "dziękuję", "obrigado", "sukriya", "arigato", "takk", "dank je", "teşekkür ederim", "ngiyabonga", "rahmat", "спасибо", "bedankt", "maururu", "hvala", "sagolun", "kop khun krap", "go raibh maith agat", "mochchakkeram", "talaiku", "grazie", "arigato", "takk", "dakujem", "merci", "terima kasih", "감사합니다", "ευχαριστώ", "mochchakkeram", "talaiku", "grazie", "arigato", "takk", "dakujem", "merci", "terima kasih", "감사합니다", "ευχαριστώ".