



## ***Languages? Let's Be Franca!***

### **How to develop true linguistic diversity**

We know that languages can die! We also know that they can be promoted, enhanced and their use dramatically increased.

Of the 6000 languages that are used in the world today, the majority of those won't survive the next century or so, and with their disappearance will go a unique way of looking at life.

However, there is hope! Over the past thirty years one of the major developments in Europe in terms of language management has been the developing understanding of how languages can be revived and revitalised. There is by now a great deal of expertise in language management and planning in many member states and in regional and local governments.

In order to extend and develop expertise in language management at a European level, the Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity (NPLD) has commissioned a study that, for the first time, shows what are the common elements within language management systems in Europe.

NPLD will present the findings of this study by Prof Colin Williams at a conference held in Brussels on the 21 February 2013. The Conference will also include speakers from the European Parliament and Commission as well as a range other speakers who represent language communities that have developed robust language strategies during the past few years.

Languages can be revitalised and reinvigorated, but it does call for a level of sophisticated planning and language management. How should the European Union support this process and present a positive and dynamic vision for all languages in the future? It's a question that's very much up for discussion.

***Join us for a lively discussion on Thursday, 21 February!***

**To book your place, contact: [sioned.eleri.jones@npld.eu](mailto:sioned.eleri.jones@npld.eu)**

**Or call 0044 (0) 2920663007**

# NPLD Conference 2013

Thursday, 21 February 2013 from 9.30 to 15.45

Government of Catalonia. Delegation to the EU, Rue de la Loi 227, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

Time	Item	Speaker
9:00	Registration & Refreshments	
9:30	Welcome & Introductions to the day	<b>Meirion Prys Jones CEO, NPLD &amp; Representative of the Government of Catalonia to the EU</b>
9:45	Developing a European Roadmap for Linguistic Diversity	<b>Jannewietske de Vries, Chair NPLD</b>
10:10	Linguistic Diversity in Europe: The challenges and opportunities	<b>Pierre Mairese</b> European Commission, Director DG EAC
10:30	Role of the European Parliament in promoting Linguistic Diversity	<b>Kinga Gál, MEP</b>
10:50	<b>Refreshments</b>	
11:15	An overview of Language Strategies being developed by National and regional governments in Europe to promote Linguistic Diversity	<b>Prof Colin Williams</b> Cardiff University, Wales UK
11:55	Q&A Session	
12:15	Endangered languages and Linguistic Diversity in the EU: An own initiative report	<b>François Alfonsi, MEP</b> Co-Chair of the Inter group
12:35	Conclusions	<b>Markus Osterlund, Folktinget</b>
12.45	<b>Buffet Lunch &amp; Networking</b>	

## Session 2:

Time	Item	Speaker
14:00	Language Management: Setting the context	<b>Meirion Prys Jones, NPLD</b>
14:10 – 15:15	Roundtable Discussions: Two case studies will be presented on the development of language planning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Case study 1: The Government of the Basque Country</li> <li>• Case study 2: The Government of Ireland</li> </ul>	<b>Patxi Baztarrika</b> , Vice-Minister for Language Policy.  <b>Máire Killoran</b> , Director of Irish. Department of Arts Heritage and the Gaeltacht
15:15-15:30	Open discussion on issues raised during the day	
15:30	Conclusions and actions	<b>Jannewietske de Vries</b>
15:45	<b>End of Conference</b>	