

Dimarts 2 de desembre de 2003

Towards a European Community policy of respect for linguistic rights

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A rights-based grounding for language policy has taken root in most states, based on respect for cultural and linguistic diversity, the choices of the individual and, although sometimes more controversially in rights terms, the choices of groups. This paper will explore the extent to which respect for linguistic rights has translated to the European Community – not a state, but a very specific kind of governing polity which has direct bearing on both states and the individuals living within them and, thus, on their language choices. Both the internal and external aspects of EU language policy will be distinguished, with emphasis on the identification (or not) of a language rights ethos where relevant. The discussion will also be sited in the context of EU enlargement and the corollary expansion of languages which must now colour the future development of European language policy.

Hi haurà traducció simultània de l'anglès al català.
Entrada lliure. Cal fer preinscripció.

CICLE DE CONFERÈNCIES

The management of European linguistic diversity

L'administració de la diversitat lingüística d'Europa

28 d'octubre, 11 de novembre
i 2 de desembre de 2003,
a les 19 hores



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Language and identity in an increasingly “post-national” world

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In a world where many facets of the nation state system appear to be weakening, if not yet disappearing, there is perhaps a space where new patterns of identity for the new situation will develop. While some of the new pattern may be determined by the networks and institutions of globalisation, some may well derive from the old local identities that were eclipsed with the rise of nationalism. Now, under less pressure to assume national identity in an exclusive way, individuals may be more likely to conceive themselves as multilayered, with their position in local communities as well as their participation in global networks contributing with nationality to their whole identity. This lecture is an overview of language in national and “post-national” settings.

How to manage linguistic diversity: the New Multilingualism of the European Union

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In order to get the requirements of a modern European language planning and language policy under control, it makes sense to analyze the factors which characterize the present multilingualism. Regarding the countless changes in the socioeconomic lives of the EU-member states since the political shift in 1990, the extension in 1995 and — presumably — the enlargement of the Union in 2004, language planning and language policy have also had to deal with the new conditions of language contact, language conflict, with multilingualism and multiculturalism in Europe. The most recent multilingual development will be presented under the title New Multilingualism.