

RML2future

Network for multilingualism and
linguistic diversity

*It's never too late ...
monolingualism is easy to cure!*

*Es ist nie zu spät ...
Einsprachigkeit ist heilbar!*

DOCUMENTATION

Kickoff meeting

in Bozen / Bolzano, South Tyrol (Italy)
from 19–21 April 2009

www.rml2future.eu

RML2future – Network for Multilingualism and Linguistic Diversity in Europe
under the lead of the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN)

www.language-diversity.eu, www.rml2future.eu

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www.yeni.org

KICKOFF MEETING

of FUEN and EURAC in January 2009 and Partner meeting of the Network RML2future in Bozen / Bolzano, South Tyrol (Italy), from 19–21 April 2009

Kickoff meeting of the FUEN Network in Bozen / Bolzano

From 20–21 April the partner kickoff meeting of the Network for Multilingualism and Linguistic Diversity in Europe (RML2future), under the lead by the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN), took place in Bozen / Bolzano.

Together with five partners, FUEN started the Network for Multilingualism and Linguistic Diversity. The network was supported with a grant of about 500 000 Euro from the European Commission for a duration of three years. The Autonomous Region Trentino-South Tyrol accepted to co-fund the network for an sum of 50 000 Euro annually.

The project partners are the European Academy Bozen / Bolzano (EURAC), the German-speaking Community in Belgium, Højskolen Østersøen in Apenrade / Aabenraa (Denmark), the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) and the Council of the Carinthian Slovenes. They had a meeting in Bozen / Bolzano to discuss the work programme and to agree on the principles of cooperation.

At the same time the meeting was the occasion to get to know one another and to learn more about the activities of the partners in general and within the network. The network will be directed by project manager Judith Walde, who is responsible on behalf of FUEN for the substance and by Sabine Wilmes, who will be responsible for administrative issues on behalf of EURAC.



Birthday present for FUEN: governor Durnwalder congratulates FUEN and partners with the Network for Multilingualism and Linguistic Diversity

Earlier, in January in the beginning of 2009 the presidium of the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN) had its first meeting of the new year also in Bozen / Bolzano, in order to start the new year and the work of the network RML2future.

A happy president Hans Heinrich Hansen took stock: "We can be very happy with the start into the new year, which is a jubilee year for FUEN. (...) We have set the course. With the Network for Multilingualism and Linguistic Diversity in Europe, which was presented at the press conference with South Tyrolean governor Durnwalder, we had our first birthday present of the year," Hansen said. He underlined that the network will significantly strengthen the profile of FUEN in the field of language promotion, especially taking into account the smaller and smallest language in Europe. The fact that an EU-application was granted for the first time and immediately with a sum of about 500 000 Euro only increases the happiness amongst those responsible within FUEN.

At the press conference with governor Dr. Luis Durnwalder, FUEN-president Hans Heinrich Hansen and EURAC-president Dr. Werner Stuflesser, it was stressed that FUEN started its network RML2future with the ambitious goal to promote multilingualism in Europe, especially by working for the benefit of the smaller and smallest languages in Europe and on the longer term to develop a centre of competence for the regional or minority languages and the multilingual regions.

"In Europe critically endangered animals and plants are being protected. This should be no different with people, in regard to culture and identity. We must do all we can in Europe for our cultural and linguistic diversity. Otherwise an important part of our heritage will be lost. FUEN is an important partner for the preservation of this heritage. We in South Tyrol are glad that we can make our contribution to the diversity in Europe with the support we give to the network," governor Durnwalder emphasised in the beginning of 2009.



At the partner meeting that followed in April 2009 the partners of the network were welcomed in Bozen/Bolzano by FUEN-vice-president Martha Stocker and EURAC-president Werner Stuflesser in the premises of the European Academy Bozen/Bolzano. By signing the partnership agreement between the partners, the work of the network RML2future officially started. The partners did not hesitate and directly discussed the project planning of the network, concrete cooperation between the partners and also got to know one another and their work during the evening programme.

The meeting was concluded with a visit to Runkelstein Castle and a delicious dinner in Wirtshaus Vögele in Bozen/Bolzano, remembered well by all the participants!

(www.runkelstein.info)



web



More information:

www.rml2future.eu

European Academy Bozen/Bolzano:

www.eurac.edu

Youth of European Nationalities: www.yeni.org

Højskolen Østersøen: www.hojoster.dk

German-speaking Community in Belgium:

www.dglive.be

Council of the Carinthian Slovenes: www.nsk.at

Federal Union of European Nationalities:

www.fuen.org



Extract from the agenda

- Introduction and getting to know the partners
- Introducing the project coordinators, project partners and their working packages, discussion
- Project management
- Dissemination and exploitation: project-website
- Project logo and corporate design of the network RML2future
- Project planning 2009–2011
- Practical matters and planning of meetings
- Signing the consortium-agreement
- Accompanying programme: guided tour through Runkelstein Castle



Participants

Frank de Boer – Youth of European Nationalities YEN, the Netherlands

Peter Buhrmann – Højskolen Østersøen, Denmark

Edgar Hungs – Agency for European Education Programmes VoG, German-speaking Community in Belgium

Janko Kulmesch – Council of the Carinthian Slovenes NSKS, Austria

Susann Schenk – Federal Union of European Nationalities FUEN, Germany

Judith Walde – Federal Union of European Nationalities FUEN, Germany

Sabine Wilmes – European Academy Bozen / Bolzano EURAC, Italy

Andrea Abel – European Academy Bozen / Bolzano EURAC, Italy

Accommodation: Park Hotel Luna Mondschein in Bozen / Bolzano;
www.hotel-luna.it/en/hotel



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