



FUEN - Federal Union of European Nationalities
UFCE - Union Fédéraliste des Communautés Ethniques Européennes
FUEV - Föderalistische Union Europäischer Volksgruppen
Федералистский Союз Европейских Национальных Меньшинств

PRESS RELEASE

Launch meeting of the Network for Multilingualism and Linguistic Diversity

From 19-21 April the launch meeting of the new language network took place in Bozen/Bolzano. With FUEN in charge, five partners are involved in the promotion of multilingualism and linguistic diversity while actively including the regional and minority languages.

The coordination of the network is done by the European Academy Bozen/Bolzano (EURAC). The other project partners are the German-speaking community in Belgium, Højskolen Østersøen in Aabenraa, Denmark, the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) and the Council of the Carinthian Slovenes.

The representatives of the partners affirmed their long-term objective to establish a competence centre in the field of regional and minority languages and multilingual regions.

Along the way the network will develop specific didactics for multilingualism, stronger cooperation between language teachers will be organised, training measures in the field language planning will be offered, the regional and minority languages will be promoted and other minorities will be included.

In October the network will invite European actors to the first regional conference in Eupen on the subject of "language certification", led by the Agency for European Education Programmes VoG of the German-speaking community in Belgium.

Both project managers were introduced; Judith Walde from FUEN and Sabine Wilmes from EURAC, who will coordinate the work of the network in the coming three years.



Photo on top, from left to right:
Edgar Hungs (DG Belgium), Peter Buhrmann (Højskolen Østersøen), Frank de Boer (Youth of European Nationalities), Sabine Wilmes (EURAC), Werner Stuflesser (EURAC)
below, from left to right:
Susann Schenk (FUEN), Andrea Abel (EURAC), Judith Walde (FUEN), Martha Stocker

FUEN vice-president Martha Stocker and president of EURAC Werner Stuflesser welcomed the network partners in the European Academy Bozen/Bolzano.

The network, which has a duration of three years, is supported by the European Commission with about 500.000 Euro. The region Trentino-Südtirol assumed the responsibility for the co-funding of the network for the sum of 50.000 Euro annually.

Contact Sabine Wilmes +39-0471-055133