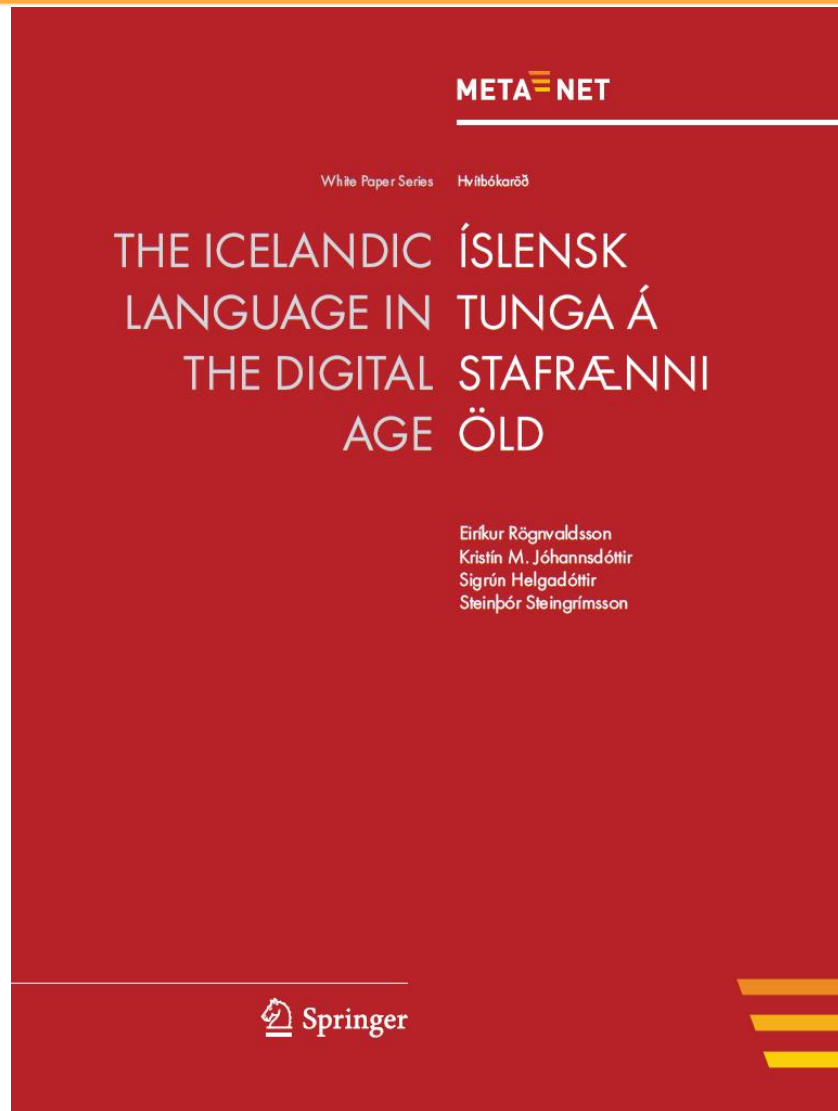


Language Technology News – Iceland

Eiríkur Rögnvaldsson
ELG NCC Iceland

META-FORUM 2019
Brussel, October 9

The META-NET White Paper



Weak/no support

- Croatian
- Icelandic**
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Romanian

Speech processing

Weak/no support

- Basque
- Bulgarian
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Estonian
- Finnish
- Galician
- Greek
- Icelandic**
- Irish
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Norwegian
- Portuguese
- Serbian
- Slovak
- Slovene
- Swedish

Machine translation

Weak/no support

- Croatian
- Estonian
- Icelandic**
- Irish
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Serbian

Text analysis

Weak/no support

- Icelandic**
- Irish
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese

Speech and text resources

Icelandic in international media

Icelanders Seek to Keep Their Language Alive and Out of 'the Latin Bin'



A law book written on calfskin in 1363 on display at a museum in Reykjavik, Iceland. Icelanders long prided themselves on reading epic tales written on the material, but their language is being undermined by the use of English. Egill Bjarnason/Associated Press

Iceland

Icelandic language battles threat of 'digital extinction'

Iceland's mother tongue and cultural identity is drowning in an online ocean of English



Jon Henley in Reykjavík

@jonhenley
Mon 26 Feb 2018 11.50 GMT



863



▲ Young Icelanders spend a large part of their lives in an almost entirely English digital world. Photograph: Alamy

Unlike most languages, when Icelandic needs a new word it rarely imports one. Instead, enthusiasts coin a new term rooted in the tongue's ancient Norse past: a neologism that looks, sounds and behaves like Icelandic.

Contacts with international IT companies



The President of Iceland visiting Microsoft headquarters



The President testing Icelandic on the Microsoft Translator app

The White Paper discussed in the Parliament



Signing of contracts on the LT Project Plan



The Minister of Education, Science and Culture signing contract with Almannarómur, August 2018

Almannarómur signing contract with the SÍM Consortium for Language Technology, September 2019



The SÍM Consortium for Language Technology



University of Iceland (UI)



Reykjavik University (RU)



The Árni Magnússon Institute for Icelandic Studies



RÚV, The Icelandic National Broadcasting Service



Icelandic Association of the Visually Impaired



Creditinfo Ltd.



Miðeind Ltd.



Tiro Ltd.



Grammatek Ltd.

The current situation in Icelandic LT

- The SÍM Consortium has been firmly established and started operating
- Work on the core tasks has started already or will start in the near future
- The Research and Development fund has already given out a few grants
- A joint Master's program in LT between UI and RU has been resurrected
- Iceland has joined CLARIN ERIC as an observer, awaiting full membership
- Cooperation is crucial – we look forward to our participation in the ELG
- The future of Icelandic Language Technology looks promising!



Thank you!

eirikur@hi.is