

EUROPEAN LANGUAGE GRID

D7.6

ELG Conference 2020
and LTC Meeting 2020

About this document

Project	ELG – European Language Grid
Grant agreement no.	825627 – Horizon 2020, ICT 2018-2020 – Innovation Action
Coordinator	Dr. Georg Rehm (DFKI)
Start date, duration	01-01-2019, 42 months (GA amendment version: AMD-825627-7)
Deliverable number	D7.6
Deliverable title	ELG Conference 2020 and LTC Meeting 2020
Type	Report
Number of pages	32
Status and version	Final – Version 1.0
Dissemination level	Public
Date of delivery	Contractual: 31-12-2020 – Actual: 26-12-2020
WP number and title	WP7: Grid Community – Communication and Competence Centres
Task number and title	Task 7.4: Organise dissemination and promotion events
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List of Abbreviations

AI4MEDIA	Artificial Intelligence for the Society and the Media Industry
Bergamot	Browser-based Multilingual Translation
COMPRISE	Cost-effective, Multilingual, Privacy-driven voice-enabled Services
CRACKER	Cracking the Language Barrier
CURLICAT	Curated Multilingual Language Resources for CEF AT
DG CNECT	Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology

DSDE	Development of Slovene in a Digital Environment
EFNIL	European Federation of National Institutions for Language
ELE	European Language Equality
Elaxis	European lexicographic infrastructure
ELG	European Language Grid
ELITR	European Live Translator
ELRC	European Language Resource Coordination
EMBEDDIA	Cross-lingual Embeddings for Less-Represented Languages in European News Media
EUCPT	EU Council Presidency Translator
FedTerm	Federated eTranslation TermBank Network
GoURMET	Global Under-Resourced MEdia Translation
LT	Language Technology
LTC	Language Technology Council
Lynx	Legal Knowledge Graph for Multilingual Compliance Services
MAPA	Multilingual Anonymisation for Public Administrations
MARCELL	Multilingual Resources for CEF.AT in the legal domain
Marian	User-Focused Marian (Neural Machine Translation Toolkit)
MeMAD	Methods for Managing Audiovisual Data
META-NET	Network of Excellence forging the Multilingual Europe Technology Alliance
MT4All	Unsupervised Machine Translation for Low-resourced language pairs
NCC	National Competence Centre
NexusLinguarium	European network for Web-centred linguistic data science
NPLD	Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity
NTEU	Neural Translation for the European Union
Prêt-à-LLOD	Ready-to-use Multilingual Linked Language Data for Knowledge Services across Sectors
PRINCIPLE	Providing Resources in Irish, Norwegian, Croatian and Icelandic for Purposes of Language Engineering
PROVENANCE	Providing Verification Assistance for New Content
QURATOR	Curation Technologies
T4ME	Technologies for the Multilingual European Information Society
WeVerify	Wider and Enhanced Verification For You

Abstract

This deliverable reports on META-FORUM 2020, first providing a brief description of the event series followed by an introduction to the 2020 edition and a summary (Section 2). In Section 3 we describe the participants and stakeholder groups and the programme. Finally, we summarise the main outcomes of the event. Section 4 presents a summary of the virtual meeting of the European Language Technology Council and National Competence Centres network that took place one day after META-FORUM 2020. The report concludes with an outlook on upcoming conferences and an annex with additional information (such as, e.g., photos etc.).

1 Introduction

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, META-FORUM 2020 had to be organised as a virtual event for the first time, and it was held on 1, 2 and 3 December. This 9th edition of the META-FORUM conference series consisted of three half days of presentations, panel discussions as well as a virtual project expo. Despite the fact that organising such a large conference in an online format was uncharted territory for the organisers, META-FORUM 2020 received a lot of interest and can surely be considered a great success with stimulating presentations and, especially during the expo sessions, many fruitful conversations. The organisers received a lot of positive feedback from various stakeholders after the event.

2 The META-FORUM Conference Series

META-FORUM is the annual international conference on Language Technologies in Europe, organised by ELG together with the META-NET Network of Excellence, dedicated to fostering the multilingual European information society. META-FORUM 2020 took place, for the very first time, as an online conference on 1, 2 and 3 December 2020. As online events can be tiring for audience and presenters alike if they are stretched out too long, we decided to organise the conference over three days (instead of the usual two days) but only with a half-day programme. In the virtual 2020 edition we mostly followed the typical structure of the conference.

Previous META-FORUM editions were organised and financially supported through the EU projects T4ME (2010, 2011, 2012, 2013) and CRACKER (2015, 2016, 2017). For 2019-2021/2022, ELG is taking over the organisation of the three, maybe four, META-FORUM conferences. They serve as the annual ELG conferences and will be used to demonstrate the current state of the ELG initiative. Like in 2019, we decided to continue using “META-FORUM” as the primary brand of the event while “European Language Grid” was again included in the title of the conference (“META-FORUM 2020: Piloting the European Language Grid”).

As the objectives of the ELG conference largely correspond to those of META-FORUM, we intend a seamless transition and interaction between both. For the time being, we decided to keep the name META-FORUM as it has become a well-known brand in the European LT landscape and we wanted to make use of this synergy for the ELG conference. Whether we will stick to this name for future events or rebrand the series to make a more obvious ELG reference remains to be discussed.¹

¹ In this document, the phrases “ELG Conference 2020” and “META-FORUM 2020” are used interchangeably.

As already in the year before, the two main goals of the event are community building and outreach to the wider European Language Technology (LT) research and industry community. This year's edition of the event aimed to present the new developments of the ELG since the last META-FORUM in 2019. Moreover, the ELG pilot projects selected for funding in the first open call were showcased in a prominent manner. In addition to the presentations in the main track, the event again featured a project expo with a special collaboration focus in order to attract potential users of the ELG and also new providers of content for the ELG.

The conference has always been foreseen also as a dissemination and promotion platform, and the ambition is to attract a large and varied number of participants so that all relevant stakeholder groups are adequately and representatively covered. While it is somewhat easier to gather a large number of people for a virtual event than for an onsite conference, maintaining attention and keeping a constant number of visitors throughout the whole event is much more difficult. Also, the community building aspect is a challenge in the virtual format. To mitigate this problem, we put a lot of effort into organising the online project expo with up to ten breakout rooms in each expo slot.

All editions of the META-FORUM conference series are thoroughly documented with their own websites. The URL <http://www.meta-forum.eu> always redirects to the most recent edition (see Table 1).

Year	URL	Motto	City, Date
2020	https://www.european-language-grid.eu/meta-forum-2020	Piloting the European Language Grid	Online, Dec 1-3
2019	https://www.european-language-grid.eu/meta-forum-2019	Introducing the European Language Grid	Brussels, Oct 8/9
2017	http://www.meta-net.eu/events/meta-forum-2017	Towards a Human Language Project	Brussels, Nov 13/14
2016	http://www.meta-net.eu/events/meta-forum-2016	Beyond Multilingual Europe	Lisbon, Jul 4/5
2015	http://www.meta-net.eu/events/meta-forum-2015	Technologies for the Multilingual DSM	Riga, Apr 27
2013	http://www.meta-net.eu/events/meta-forum-2013	Connecting Europe for New Horizons	Berlin, Sep 19/20
2012	http://www.meta-net.eu/events/meta-forum-2012	A Strategy for Multilingual Europe	Brussels, Jun 20/21
2011	http://www.meta-net.eu/events/meta-forum-2011	Solutions for Multilingual Europe	Budapest, Jun 27/28
2010	http://www.meta-net.eu/events/meta-forum-2010	Challenges for Multilingual Europe	Brussels, Nov 17/18

Table 1: Overview of the META-FORUM conference series (2010-2020)

The timeline of ELG activities (Figure 1) shows the META-FORUM conference series until 2021 within the ELG framework.

Figure 2 shows the landing page of the META-FORUM 2020 website, informing about the conference and its highlights. In the META-FORUM subpages, the detailed programme, the project expo pages, the registration and the contact page can be found.

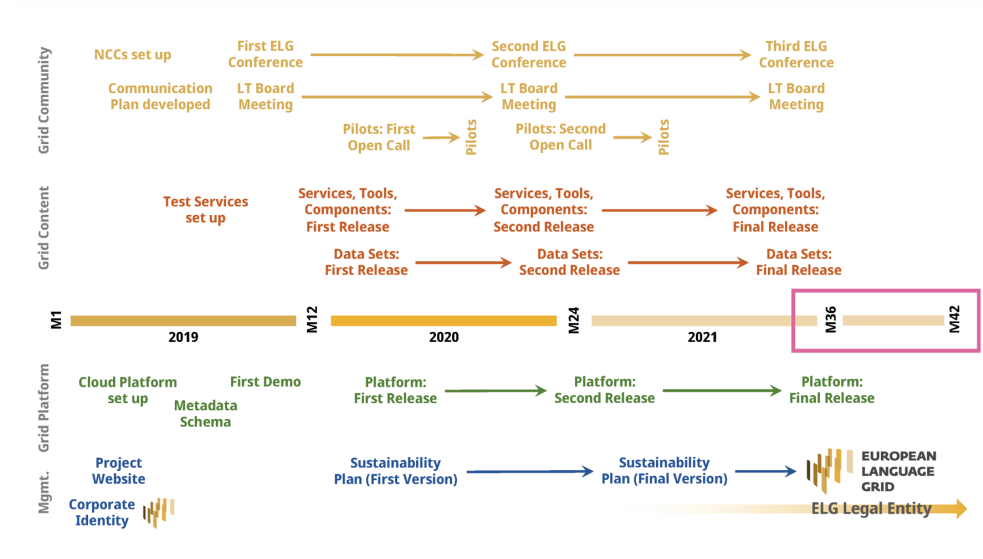


Figure 1: ELG Conferences during the runtime of ELG

The second annual ELG conference

META FORUM 2020

PILOTING THE EUROPEAN LANGUAGE GRID

1-3 December 2020

Virtual ZOOM conference
(hosted from Berlin, Germany)

META-FORUM 2020
Programme
Project Expo
Registration
Contact

META-FORUM is the international conference series on powerful and innovative Language Technologies for the **multilingual information society**. It's the place to be to learn about the **most recent developments in European Language Technology industry and research** including language-centric AI.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, META-FORUM 2020 goes virtual. But that doesn't mean you have to miss anything. Just like its eight predecessor conferences, this year's META-FORUM will offer a wide variety of presentations and panel discussions, and also our expo will open its doors again. At our virtual expo booths you can get to know our 10 brand-new ELG pilot projects and their work and learn more about other interesting innovation projects and initiatives.

This year's META-FORUM will also offer the opportunity to get a sneak peek of the upcoming Release 2 of the ELG cloud platform, which will be launched in early 2021. The system was demonstrated at META-FORUM 2019 for the very first time, and has since been extensively developed and enhanced.

Registration for META-FORUM is, as usual, **free of charge**.

We look forward to seeing you online.

Highlights:

- Overview and first demo of the European Language Grid (Release 2)
- Presentation of the ten new ELG Pilot Projects
- Language Technology and Artificial Intelligence: building bridges in the EU
- Current EU-funded projects in the Language Technology area
- News from the language communities
- Reports from industry

Figure 2: Landing page of the META-FORUM 2020 website

3 META-FORUM 2020: Piloting the European Language Grid

META-FORUM 2020 was the 2020 edition of the international series of conferences on powerful and innovative language technologies for the multilingual information society. The motto of the conference was “Piloting the European Language Grid”.

3.1 Programme

In the preparation phase, the conference setup and programme was discussed in various video conferences among the partners involved in the organisation of the event. One of the most important milestones of the ELG project in 2020 was the selection and launch of the ten pilot projects. Additionally, in the past 14 months since META-FORUM 2019, work on the ELG cloud platform made a lot of progress, and in 2020 it is now time to put the platform to the test. In this process, the ELG pilot projects play an integral role. Therefore, it was soon quite clear that they should also play a prominent role during the annual ELG event. This idea is also reflected in the motto of this year’s META-FORUM: Piloting the European Language Grid.

Another focus should of course be on the ELG platform itself: the development since the first public demonstration at META-FORUM 2019 should be shown and explained. It was decided to only have short presentations on the current state of play and to leave the actual demonstration to the ELG project expo room, where interactive dialogues with the visitors were possible. This approach worked out very well.

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
1 December 2020 – META-FORUM 2020 Day 1 <p>Session 1: Opening</p> <p>09:30 Welcome and Introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georg Rehm (DPM, Germany, Coordinator ELG and General Secretary of META-NET) – Slides Jar Hagi (Charles University, Czech Republic, Chair of the META-NET Executive Board) – Slides <p>09:35 Opening keynote Speech</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patrick Bryner (Member of the European Parliament) <p>09:30 Opening keynote Speech</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tor Wälchli (Chief Director, Directorate G, DG CONNECT, European Commission) <p>09:45 ELG – Broad overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georg Rehm (DPM, Germany) – Slides Katrin Bontemps (University of Sheffield, UK) – Slides Stefan Papiński (Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria) – Slides <p>10:30 Virtual Coffee Break</p> <p>Session 2: ELG Open Calls & Pilot Projects</p> <p>10:45 ELG Open Call 10, and Open Call 11 – A brief overview of the two open calls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jar Hagi (Charles University, Czech Republic) – Slides Lubek Kufner (Charles University, Czech Republic) Jana Handlovská (Charles University, Czech Republic) <p>11:30 ELG Pilot Project: European Clinical Case Corpus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bernard Magnien (Protonique Biotech, Spain) – Slides <p>11:35 ELG Pilot Project: Lingual Solutions as Distributable Components</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Steinhilber (Lingual, Inc., Finland) – Slides <p>11:40 ELG Pilot Project: WGS in Linguistic Linked Open Data</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michael Wotjak (Linguistic Linked Open Data) – Slides <p>11:45 ELG Pilot Project: Speech-to-text speaker adaptation (based on Microsoft AI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yigit Lakuraj Akkocak (Etiqaqa Foundation, Spain) – Slides José Antonio Sánchez (Etiqaqa Foundation, Spain) <p>11:50 ELG Pilot Project: Italian (ITALIA) Benchmark: Linguistic Resources, NLP Services and Tools</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vittoria Patti (Università Degli Studi di Torino, Italy) – Slides <p>11:55 ELG Pilot Project: Open Translation Models, Tools and Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jing Tiedemann (University of Helsinki, Finland) – Slides <p>12:00 ELG Pilot Project: Extracting Terminological Concept Systems from Natural Language Text</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enrique Graisner (University of Vienna, Austria) – Slides <p>12:05 ELG Pilot Project: Textual paraphrase dataset for deep language modelling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peter Ginter (University of Turku, Finland) – Slides <p>12:10 ELG Pilot Project: Virtual Personal Assistant Prototype</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Francis Weber (Stellex Consulting AG, Austria) – Slides <p>12:15 ELG Pilot Project: Streaming Language Processing in Manufacturing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domènec Bener (IDS Research Center for Information Technology, Germany) – Slides <p>12:30 Project Expo</p> <p>12:30 End of META-FORUM 2020 Day 1</p>	2 December 2020 – META-FORUM 2020 Day 2 <p>Session 3: European Language Equity (ELE)</p> <p>09:30 Introducing the upcoming ELG project European Language Equity (ELE)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Andy May (Stellenbosch University, Ireland, Coordinator ELE) – Slides Georg Rehm (DPM, Germany, Co-coordinator ELE) Jar Hagi (Charles University, Czech Republic) Stefan Papiński (Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria) German Rieger (University of the Basque Country, Spain) <p>Session 4: News from the Language Communities</p> <p>09:30 Reports from selected ELG National Competence Centres (NCCs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matti Toppinen (2021 Lukes, Finland) – Slides Robert Szwedowski (University of Wrocław, NCC, Poland) – Slides Svetlana Krasova (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, NCC, Bulgaria) – Slides Marek Topolinski (Polish Academy of Sciences, NCC, Poland) – Slides María Velasco (Basque Supercomputing Center, NCC, Spain) – Slides Fransje Van (LMSCNCC, NCC, France) – Slides Moderator: Georg Rehm (DPM, Germany) – Slides <p>10:45 Project Expo</p> <p>Session 5: European Academic and Language-centric Activities</p> <p>11:30 AML2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patrick Gaudier (Toulouse, France) Joachim Kötter (Frankfurt, AG, Germany) Thomas Kumpikowski (CESTRA, France) Paul Lohndorf (DPM, Germany) Edgar Hees (University of Leoben, The Netherlands) Luca Le Bars (DAF, Germany) Georg Rehm (DPM, Germany) Moderator: Jar Hagi (Charles University, Czech Republic) – Slides <p>12:30 Project Expo</p> <p>12:30 End of META-FORUM 2020 Day 2</p>	3 December 2020 – META-FORUM 2020 Day 3 <p>Session 6: ELG and the European LT Industry</p> <p>09:30 European Language Technology companies present themselves and their specific needs, demands and solutions towards ELG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair and moderator: Gerhard Bachthold (LWS, LWS, Austria) – Slides Andreas Ratti (Chalmers, Austria) – Slides Julian Ruppel (Chalmers, Czech Republic) – Slides Georg De Pauw (Thales, Belgium) – Slides Tomasz Miron (Phonetic, Austria) – Slides Luca De (Innovatix, France) – Slides Anna Schmitt (LWS, Austria) – Slides Martin Voth (Thales, Switzerland) – Slides Antonio Valenzuela (Thales, Spain) – Slides Alexander Seibert (Deutsche, Germany) – Slides <p>10:45 Project Expo</p> <p>Session 7: Sustainability of European LT Projects</p> <p>11:35 Sustainability of the European Language Grid and other related projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georg Rehm (DPM, Germany) – Slides Thomas Ginter (European Commission, DG CONNECT, Luxembourg) – Slides <p>Session 8: Closing</p> <p>12:45 A break talk at META-FORUM 2021</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georg Rehm (DPM, Germany) – Slides <p>12:50 End of META-FORUM 2020 Day 3</p>

Figure 3: META-FORUM 2020 programme (provided in larger versions in the annex)

The programme on the days 2 and 3 was more dedicated to new advancements within the language-centric AI community and to special stakeholder groups within the community. All presented slides as well as the recordings of the sessions are available in the “programme” section of the META-FORUM page (<https://www.european-language-grid.eu/meta-forum-2020/meta-forum-2020-programme/>). Again, the European LT community was another important focus of the conference. Even if it was impossible to bring people together physically

who work in the same field, we managed to gather many people with the same visions for a common event. Thanks to the organisation of the expo, there were opportunities for numerous discussions and conversations in the virtual exhibition stands, which will also result in further collaborations. The idea of collaboration and community building is mirrored in the programme of the event (see Figure 3).

3.2 Main Content

On the first day, after a brief welcome and introduction by Georg Rehm (General Secretary of META-NET as well as Coordinator of ELG) and Jan Hajič (Chair of the META-NET Executive Board), the conference was opened by two keynote speakers from two European Institutions, the European Parliament and the European Commission. The first keynote was given by Patrick Breyer, Member of the European Parliament (Germany – Piratenpartei Deutschland). The second keynote was presented by Yvo Volman, Acting Director of the Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT).

After the opening, the ELG consortium presented the latest developments regarding the ELG platform and showed what has changed since META-FORUM 2019. The presentation covered mainly the project areas Grid Content with the language technologies, services and resources that are already available in ELG, and the Grid Platform, focusing on the latest functionalities and features in the ELG platform and the catalogue.

Session 2 featured the process of the ELG open calls for pilot projects, the selection of the ten funded projects in open call #1 and, above all, the presentations of the selected projects themselves. All pilot projects had a five-minute slot to briefly present themselves. The idea was for all projects to briefly introduce their projects to attract visitors to the virtual expo booths that opened in the subsequent project expo. In these dedicated meeting rooms, they could then show attendees details about their projects and have one-on-one discussions with the participants. The ten pilot projects showcased in Session 2 are listed in Table 2²:

Organisation	Project Title	Country	Funding awarded
Fondazione Bruno Kessler	European Clinical Case Corpus	Italy	EUR 139,370
Lingsoft, Inc.	Lingsoft Solutions as Distributable Containers	Finland	EUR 140,625
Coreon GmbH	MKS as Linguistic Linked Open Data	Germany	EUR 167,375
Elhuyar Fundazioa	Basque-speaking Smart Speaker Based on Mycroft AI	Spain	EUR 117,117
Università Degli Studi di Torino	Italian EVALITA Benchmark Linguistic Resources, NLP Services and Tools	Italy	EUR 126,125
University of Helsinki	Open Translation Models, Tools, and Services	Finland	EUR 154,636
University of Vienna	Extracting Terminological Concept Systems from Natural Language Text	Austria	EUR 132,977
University of Turku	Textual paraphrase Dataset for Deep Language Modeling	Finland	EUR 166,085
Weber Consulting	Virtual Personal Assistant Prototype	Austria	EUR 87,445
FZI Research Center for Information Technology	Streaming Language Processing in Manufacturing	Germany	EUR 132,160

Table 2: List of ELG Pilot Projects presented in Session 2

² For more details on the open calls, the pilot projects and the selection process, see ELG Deliverables D6.1 and D6.2.

The second day kicked off with a presentation of the upcoming EU project European Language Equality (ELE) in Session 3. ELE brings together the most important stakeholders of the European LT community in its consortium of 53 partners, to formulate a roadmap and a strategic agenda to achieve digital language equality in Europe by 2030.

In Session 4, news from the Language Communities were presented by selected Leads of the ELG National Competence Centres. The first speaker of the session presented a concept developed by stakeholders in Finland. Their main idea is the development of a legal entity that takes care of language resources and technologies for several languages in Finland. The NCC Leads each reported on the current funding situation and on the importance of the LT sector in the political discourse in their countries.

Session 5 was, as in the year before, organised as a discussion panel on the topic of European AI and Language-centric AI Initiatives. Six speakers of relevant initiatives and projects – AI4EU³, AI4MEDIA⁴, BDVA⁵, AI PPP⁶, VISION, CLAIRE⁷ and HumanE AI Net⁸ – had been invited and discussed their views and the challenges of AI and the necessity of understanding Language-centric AI as an important constituent of the field.

The first session of day 3 focused on ELG and the European LT Industry. Representatives from nine European Language Technology companies presented themselves and discussed their ideas and specific demands towards the ELG in order to become the primary marketplace for European LT and to serve the industry's needs.

The following session dealt with the topic of Sustainability of the European Language Grid and related projects in which the Project Officer of ELG and Head of the Sector Multilingualism at DG CNECT highlighted the need for ELG to become independent of public funding to be useful to the community and achieve its goals and vision. The event closed with a summary of the conference and a preview of the remainder of the ELG project.

On all days of the conference, the breaks gave the opportunity to visit the virtual expo featuring more than 30 running projects in the field of Language Technology and beyond (see Section 3.2.3).

3.2.1 Contributions

As in the years before, speakers and panellists of META-FORUM 2020 were contacted directly by the organisers and asked to contribute to the event actively. The advantage of this approach is that the programme can be compiled in a coordinated and structured manner, which helps to receive a balanced, informative and relevant agenda. Again, a strong focus was on presenting the wider landscape of currently funded projects in the area of LT and language-centric AI but also the industry perspective has been taken into account. By that, the conference is an attractive meeting point for industry stakeholders and researchers alike.

3.2.2 Keynotes Speakers

Both keynotes were given in the opening session to underline the vision of the META-FORUM and of ELG as an initiative.

³ <https://www.ai4eu.eu>

⁴ <https://ai4media.eu>

⁵ <http://www.bdva.eu>

⁶ <https://ai-data-robotics-partnership.eu>

⁷ <https://claire-ai.org>

⁸ <https://www.humane-ai.eu>

The first keynote was given by Patrick Breyer, Member of the European Parliament from the Groups of the Greens/European Free Alliance. Mr. Breyer emphasised the need for a multilingual Digital Single Market in Europe that includes all the 24 official European languages equally, where no language is left behind. Language Technology is the means to break the language barriers that still exist in the European Union and to fill the gaps between the highly different levels of digital language coverage. LT will facilitate the cooperation between European countries in various spheres and has the potential to boost our lives in Europe, both online and offline.

The second keynote was presented by Yvo Volman, Acting Director of the Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology (DG CNECT). Mr. Volman stressed that the EU needs a common and strong LT platform for reasons of equality and liberty as well as for economic reasons. LTs are part of the digital transformation but they have to respect user privacy. Therefore, Europe needs trusted technologies that respect the EU values and laws. LT has the potential to fight disinformation and allow for a fact-based public debate between all Europeans, whatever their language, to foster democracy. Mr. Volman also highlighted the economic potential of the LT field. Europe is a huge market and the EU needs autonomy in this domain instead of depending on technologies by US or Asian tech giants. Therefore, he concluded, all European actors in the LT landscape need to cooperate to create a multilingual Digital Single Market and language equality in Europe.

3.2.3 Project Expo

Holding a conference that is supposed to foster community building and networking as an online event, is a compromise and technical challenge. At the same time, the year 2020 with its many cancelled events and meetings made it even more necessary to provide room for open exchange among colleagues and (potential) collaborators. So, it was decided to organise a large project expo again to enable in-depth discussions on different approaches in the various projects. Like in an on-site project expo, not only the general project idea was presented but the virtual project booths allowed also for project demos, detailed explanations and profound exchange between visitors and project organisers.

The expo featured 35 projects, all of which had their own dedicated virtual meeting room in which the project representatives could show material they found useful. Moreover, all projects were asked to prepare a poster as is common in academic poster sessions. Each project was assigned to one meeting room in one of the four expo slots during the programme. The project overview with the Zoom links for the respective rooms was published on the META-FORUM website (<https://www.european-language-grid.eu/meta-forum-2020/meta-forum-2020-project-expo/>). In addition to the meeting rooms, we created a web page for each project, containing an abstract, the respective project poster and all other visual materials prepared by the projects. These can be found when clicking on the project name in the overview page. Visitors could either only study the material on the web pages or jump in the different project meeting rooms (i.e., the virtual expo booths) and stay in the meetings as long as they liked. Most visitors stayed 5-10 minutes in one meeting room before they dropped out and went to the next project. Others preferred to stay mainly in the same Zoom room for the whole time of the expo slot and engaged in detailed discussions.

Apart from the ten pilot projects (see Table 2), the following projects participated in META-FORUM 2020 with project booths: AI4MEDIA, Bergamot, COMPRISE, CURLICAT, DSDE, Elexis, ELG, ELITR, ELRC, EMBEDDIA, EUCPT, FedTerm, Gourmet, Lynx, MAPA, MARCELL, Marian MeMAD, MT4All, NexusLinguarum, NTEU, Prêt-à-LLOD, PRINCIPLE, PROVENANCE, QURATOR, WeVerify. Tables 3-6 show the different meeting rooms, their numbers of participants and respective colleagues in charge.

In all four expo slots, one meeting room was dedicated to the ELG project. Members of the consortium provided guided tours through the platform, demos of the catalogue and discussed questions and ideas of (potential) users, providers and other interested parties.

Tue, 1 Dec, 12:00 (CET)

Meeting room no.	Project name	Person in charge	No. of participants
1	ELG	Georg Rehm	49
2	E3C	Bernardo Magnini	26
3	LSDISCO	Michael Stormbom	14
4	MKS-LLOD	Michael Wetzel	10
5	Smart euSpeaker	Igor Leturia Azkarate	17
6	EVALITA4ELG	Viviana Patti	18
7	OPUS-MT	Jörg Tiedemann	25
8	Text2TCS	Dagmar Gromann	17
9	PARA4DLM	Filip Ginter	13
10	YouTwinDi	Franz Weber	22
11	SLAPMAN	Dominik Riemer	7

Table 3: Expo meeting rooms and their numbers of participants (Day 1)

Wed, 2 Dec, 10:45 (CET)

Meeting room no.	Project name	Person in charge	No. of participants
1	ELG	Georg Rehm	24
2	EUCPT	Stephan Busemann	15
3	ELRC	Andrea Lösch	12
4	QUARATOR	Julian Moreno Schneider	9
5	Lynx	Elena Montiel	9
6	ELEXIS	Simon Krek	11
7	MT4All	Gorka Labaka	16
8	NexusLinguarum	Thierry Declerck	8
9	CURLICAT	Tamás Váradi	11

Table 4: Expo meeting rooms and their numbers of participants (Day 2/1)

Wed, 2 Dec, 12:30 (CET)

Meeting room no.	Project name	Person in charge	No. of participants
1	ELG	Georg Rehm	17
2	Bergamot	Ulrich Germann	13
3	COMPRISE	Emmanuel Vincent	11
4	EMBEDIA	Marko Robnik	17

5	ELTR	Ondrej Bojar	21
6	GoURMET	Kay Macquarrie	10
7	WeVerify	Kalina Bontcheva	5
8	Prêt-à-LLOD	Thierry Declerck	8
9	MAPA	Manuel Herranz	20
10	AI4MEDIA	Yiannis Kompatsiaris	5

Table 5: Expo meeting rooms and their numbers of participants (Day 2/2)

Thu, 3 Dec, 10:15 (CET)

Meeting room no.	Project name	Person in charge	No. of participants
1	ELG	Georg Rehm	9
2	NTEU	Manuel Herranz	19
3	MARCELL	Marko Tadić	12
4	MeMAD	Dieter van Rijsselbergen	8
5	PRINCIPLE	Jane Dunne	10
6	DSDE	Simon Krek	6
7	PROVENANCE	Atif Qureshi, Bilal Yousuf	5
9	FedTerm	Ēriks Ajausks	11
10	Marian	Jūlija Meļņika	12

Table 6: Expo meeting rooms and their numbers of participants (Day 3)

3.3 Participants and Stakeholder Groups

Before the conference, we had a total of 431 registrations for META-FORUM 2020. The event itself, then, had a total of 346 unique participants in its main track, i.e., 80% of the persons who registered actually participated in the conference; the no show rate of 20% is surprisingly small compared to the typical no show rate of 50-60% for virtual conferences. The low no show rate demonstrates the high relevance and importance of the event and the ELG project and platform at large.

The attendee breakdown per session was as follows:

- Sessions 1 and 2: 254 attendees
- Sessions 3 and 4: 169 attendees
- Session 5: 113 attendees
- Session 6: 121 attendees
- Sessions 7 and 8: 85 attendees

There were participants from a total of 40 countries, the majority from Germany, Belgium Spain, France and Italy (see Table 7).

Country	Percentage	Country	Percentage
Germany	15.2%	Slovakia	1.17%
Belgium	9.94%	Croatia	1.17%
Spain	8.48%	Lithuania	1.17%
France	6.73%	Egypt	0.88%
Italy	6.14%	India	0.88%
Greece	5.56%	Estonia	0.88%
Austria	4.97%	Slovenia	0.88%
United Kingdom	3.51%	Denmark	0.88%
Czech Republic	3.22%	Israel	0.58%
The Netherlands	3.22%	Norway	0.58%
Finland	2.92%	Bulgaria	0.58%
Ireland	2.92%	USA	0.58%
Luxembourg	2.63%	Turkey	0.58%
Portugal	2.05%	Japan	0.29%
Latvia	2.05%	Moldova	0.29%
Serbia	1.75%	Malta	0.29%
Switzerland	1.75%	Brazil	0.29%
Poland	1.46%	Iceland	0.29%
Hungary	1.46%	Indonesia	0.29%
Romania	1.17%	Pakistan	0.29%

Table 7: META-FORUM 2020 – participants and country distribution

We collected the email addresses and affiliations during registration. After closing the registration a few days before the event the distribution with respect to the stakeholder areas was as follows: 63.34% of the registered participants belong to the area of research (including some researchers from commercial companies), 26.91% are from industry and 9.75% of the registrants belong to public administration.

In order to learn more about the participants and their interests that actually attended the conference, we conducted a short online survey at the end of each day. The first question referred to the wider area. According to that survey, 65.2% of the attendees belong to the area of research, 14.1% belong to SMEs that develop and provide Language Technology, 1.1% each came either from larger enterprises that develop and provide LT or from companies that use or buy LT, and 18.5% answered the question choosing “Other”. These results mirror the tendency we received when analysing the registration data (also see Section 3.4).

3.4 Survey

When closing the Zoom Webinar session of the main conference track, the participants were asked to complete a short online survey. Out of 346 participants distributed over the three conference days, 92 attendees answered it. The goal was not only to obtain a better understanding about the participants and where they come from but also to understand their needs and assessments for the current funding situation in the LT area. In the following, the most interesting results and findings are explained. The full survey can be found in the annex.

Surprisingly, of the 92 respondents more than a quarter was not aware of the European Language Grid before this edition of META-FORUM. This can be explained by the fact that the first launch of the platform was only in 2020, but also indicates that we have to invest more effort in our promotional and dissemination activities.

Were you aware of the European Language Grid prior to META-FORUM 2020?
92 Antworten

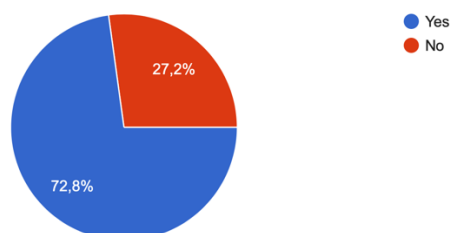


Figure 4: Follow-up survey: Awareness level of ELG

Another interesting finding relates to the question if attendees would use or integrate services or data sets after the presentations and demonstrations at META-FORUM 2020 (Figure 5). More than 70% would use services and datasets “highly likely” or “somewhat likely”. And nearly as many would contribute services and datasets. Regarding the use of the catalogue, the number of those who would be “highly likely” to use it is as high as 40%, and almost 30% answer that they would use it “somewhat likely”.

Following the ELG presentations and demonstrations at META-FORUM 2020, how likely are you to:

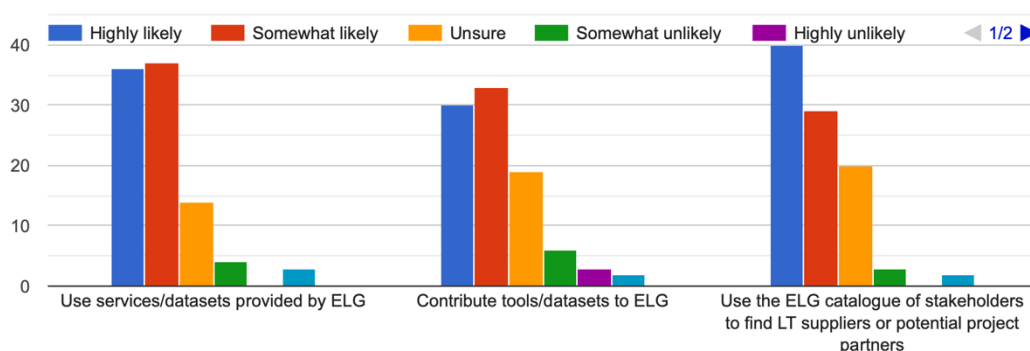


Figure 5: Follow-up survey: Likelihood of usage of ELG

With regard to the funding situation in the LT area, the results are quite balanced (Figure 6). A little more than half of the respondents state that their funding is in part or even fully (12%) from funding programmes like Horizon 2020, while a little less than the other half say that they do not receive any funding of this sort at all. This answer is as expected and in line with the introductory question on the affiliation.

Have you received funding from Horizon 2020, CEF, or other funding programmes?
92 Antworten

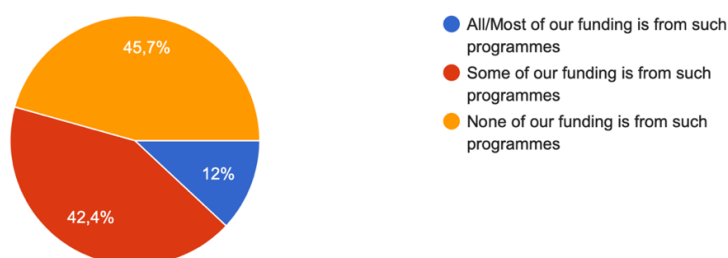


Figure 6: Follow-up survey: Funding situation among attendees

3.5 Main Conclusions

Interest in the ELG platform and initiative is considerably stronger than in 2019. ELG is gaining more and more traction. META-FORUM has proven to be an effective marketing and information channel for ELG.

Discussions that took place in the expo provided, again, a lot of valuable feedback and inspiration. This format worked also very well to advertise the work of the pilot projects. The idea of briefly introducing these pilot projects in the main track and then presenting them in detail in the breakout meeting room worked very well.

Despite the difficult conditions, the conference was a great success, while it is obvious that virtual events can only emulate certain parts of a face-to-face event while others – the often mentioned informal chats with colleagues you happen to meet over coffee – are very difficult to recreate in the virtual format. The advantage of a virtual event is, though, that it reaches many more interested people because there is no need to travel and you can simply decide to attend specific sessions only. Participants may have attended who otherwise would not have because of, say, high travel costs or too much effort. A quick poll during the opening session showed that more than half of the participants attended META-FORUM for the first time in 2020⁹.

While not everybody attended each session, the online format makes it possible for visitors to select only those sessions they are particularly interested in and for which they had sufficient time capacities. The virtual format has a positive side effect: recordings can be produced very easily. They enable interested parties to follow-up and to watch some of the sessions afterwards. All META-FORUM 2020 sessions are available on YouTube.¹⁰

4 European LT Council: Meeting 2020

One of ELG's main objectives is to establish a structured dialogue with all relevant national and international stakeholders. Among these stakeholders are representatives of research centres, industry, national funding agencies, national language institutes, national and international stakeholder initiatives, associations etc. (among others, EFNIL, NPLD, EU/EC, LT Innovate, META-NET, ELG, and ELG National Competence Centres).

The European Language Technology Council (LTC) is supposed to widen the reach of the ELG community while also taking on strategic tasks, and it is expected to support the idea of technology-enabled and technology-supported multilingualism in Europe in general. While the ELG National Competence Centres (NCCs) are a means to support and strengthen the ELG and to make it known throughout Europe, the LTC is meant to be, first and foremost, a forum that enables easy and efficient communication and coordination at the European level, specifically with regard to ongoing and emerging international and also national activities relating to LT research, development and innovation.

The European LT Council will foster the coordination and strategic as well as political discussion, representing all relevant stakeholder groups. One of its crucial tasks will be the preparation of strategic recommendations,

⁹ The question was: "Is this your first META-FORUM?" and the replies were as follows: 65% answered: "Yes, I've never been to META-FORUM before", 25% said: "No I'm a regular attendant of META-FORUM", 10% said: "No, but I haven't been at META-FORUM for a while". It must be noted, though, that only attendees who logged-in via the Zoom client were able to answer the poll. For visitors, using the browser-based Zoom tool, this functionality is not available. In this poll 80 attendees participated out of 254 participants of the session. Therefore, it is not representative of the audience as a whole.

¹⁰ The videos are available through the ELG YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCarEHmsWTJslcvvWkbhL4A>.

especially geared towards national and European administrations and funding agencies. The ELG project will compile the initial suggestions, which are then discussed, finalised and approved by the LTC, taking into account the ideas, demands, wishes, needs and suggestions of all LTC members.

4.1 Participants



Figure 7: Participants of the meeting of the European Language Technology Council

The concept of the board was completed in the fall of 2019 and the composition and further population of the council with members was supposed to take place during the first half of 2020¹¹. Due to new priorities during the Covid-19 pandemic and especially due to the emergence of the European Language Equality project, this process has not been completed yet. For now, the LTC consists of the persons who serve as the leads of ELG's National Competence Centres (NCC). This group was invited to a three-hour online meeting on 4 December 2020, the day after META-FORUM proper, to discuss important issues in the current and upcoming year. Figure 8 shows many of the participants of this online meeting.

4.2 Agenda and Meeting Topics

The first part of the meeting was reserved for the discussion of NCC-related issues like the organisation of regional or national ELG workshops, the collection of relevant data for the population of the ELG catalogue, collecting information on strategic questions in the LT area in the respective countries through questionnaires and surveys and the contributions by the NCCs to papers like the "European Language Technology Landscape in 2020" paper, published at LREC 2020.¹²

¹¹ For details, see D7.2 "National Competence Centres and Language Technology Council"

¹² Rehm et al.: The European Language Technology Landscape in 2020: Language-Centric and Human-Centric AI for Cross-Cultural Communication in Multilingual Europe. In Nicoletta Calzolari, Frédéric B  chet, Philippe Blache, Christopher Cieri, Khalid Choukri, Thierry Declerck, Hitoshi Isahara, Bente Maegaard, Joseph Mariani, Asuncion Moreno, Jan Odijk, and Stelios Piperidis, editors, *Proceedings of the 12th Language Resources and Evaluation Conference (LREC 2020)*, pages 3315-3325, Marseille, France, 2020. European Language Resources Association (ELRA).

The second part of the meeting concentrated on a discussion of the European Language Equality project (ELE), which will start on 1 January 2021 with a duration of 18 months. The work to be carried out in ELE will make a fundamental contribution to the creation and establishment of the LTC and will ensure that this body receives the necessary attention. Almost all of the NCC Leads and existing or foreseen members of the LTC are members of the ELE consortium. The work foreseen in ELE will provide an enormous boost to the formation and success of the LTC's main mission, i.e., providing more visibility to and impact for the Language Technology topic throughout Europe. This is why we decided to make the ELE project the main focus of the LTC meeting in 2020. The full agenda of the meeting can be found in the annex.

4.3 Main Conclusions

With regard to the mission of the LTC, the ELE project will be of very high importance and relevance in the upcoming 18 months, especially with respect to the further development of the language-centric AI field and the strategic orientation of the LT community. The LTC can play a critical role here, given the large overlap of the existing group and the ELE consortium and the, essentially, identical mission of the LTC and the ELE project. The vision of arriving at a strategic agenda and roadmap to achieve full Digital Language Equality in Europe by the year 2030 and the benefit of Language Technology for the European information society are inextricably linked.

To boost the mission of the LTC and to identify as well as exploit all synergies between ELG, NCCs, LTC and ELE, the NCCs have decided on quarterly meetings in 2021. The NCCs will play an important role in inviting new members to the council to ensure that all countries are represented. Hence, the meetings next year will be used to discuss strategic topics such as stakeholder groups, next action points and synergies with ELE.

5 Outlook

The next annual ELG/META-FORUM conference is foreseen for Q4/2021. Despite the successful virtual conference in 2020, our intention is to organise the next META-FORUM as a face-to-face event again if the development with regard to Covid-19 and especially the rollout of the various vaccination programmes allow for this. Decisions on the location as well as the dates will be made in late Q1 or early Q2/2021.

The ELG project was extended by six months due to the pandemic. The new ELE project, a sister project to ELG, will start in January 2021 and run for 18 months, which means that both ELG and ELE will come to an end in June 2022. Our current plan is to finish both projects with one larger final event, to be organised in June 2022, at which all results of the two projects will be presented and at which the next steps can be discussed.

The next meeting of the European LT Council is planned for Q4/2021, this meeting will be organised in the same mode as META-FORUM 2021, either virtual or face-to-face. All future activities by and around the LTC will be closely coordinated with the ELE project.

A. META-FORUM 2020 Screenshots

Below we include impressions of the Opening and the Sustainability Session. More material can be found on the ELG website (<https://www.european-language-grid.eu/meta-forum-2020/meta-forum-2020-programme/>).

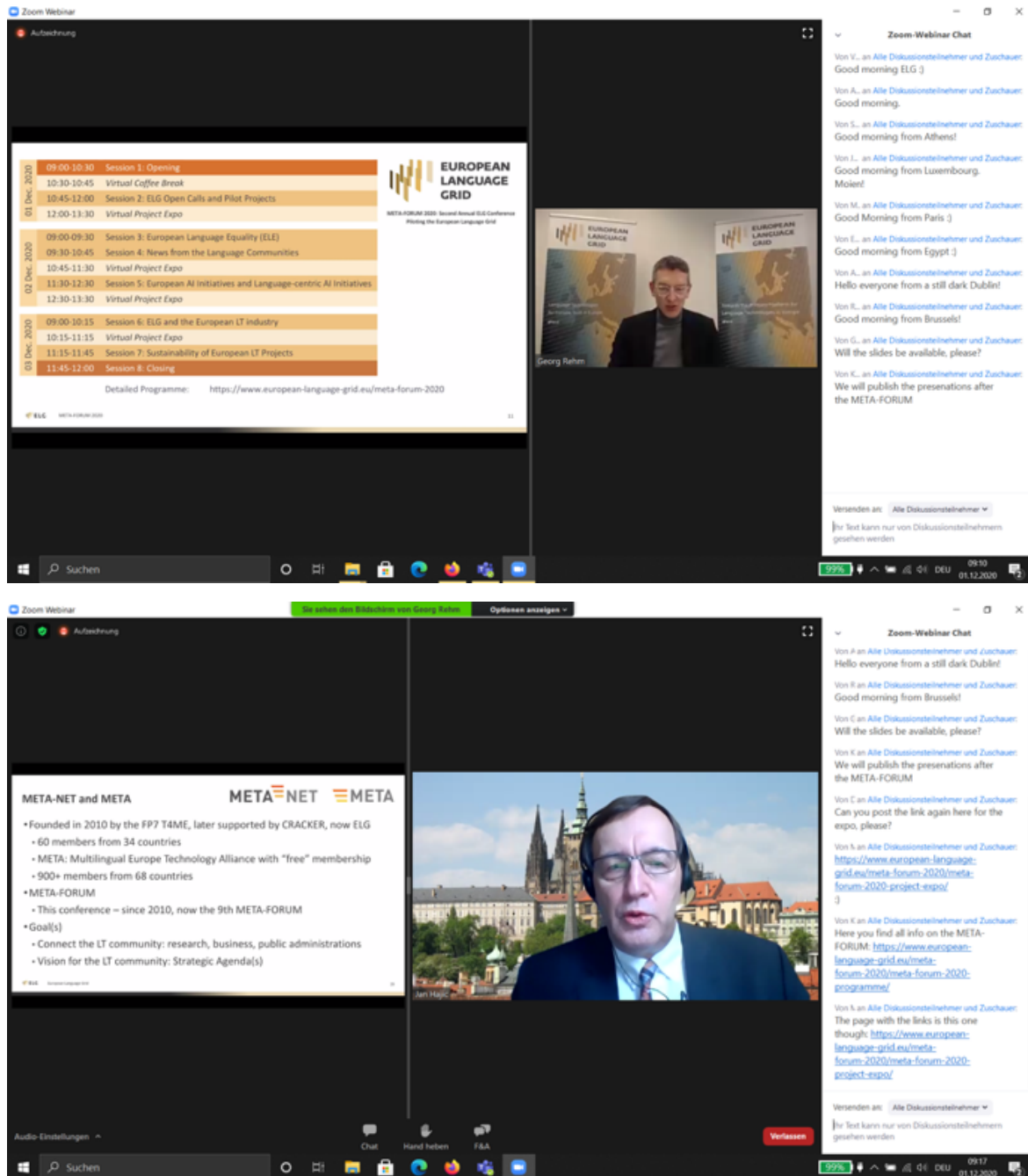


Figure 8: Screenshots of the Introductory Session

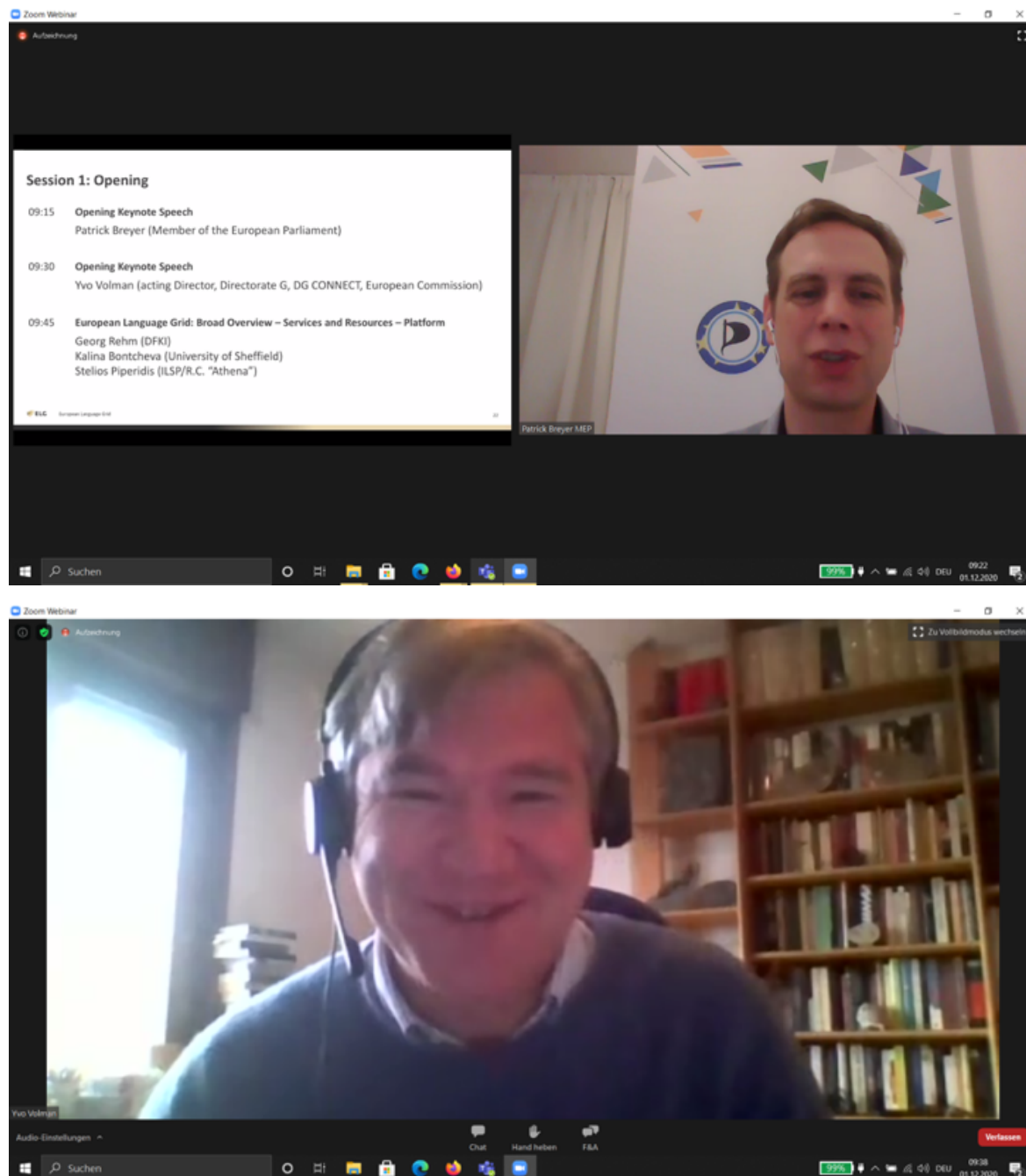


Figure 9: Screenshots of the Opening Session (Keynote speakers)

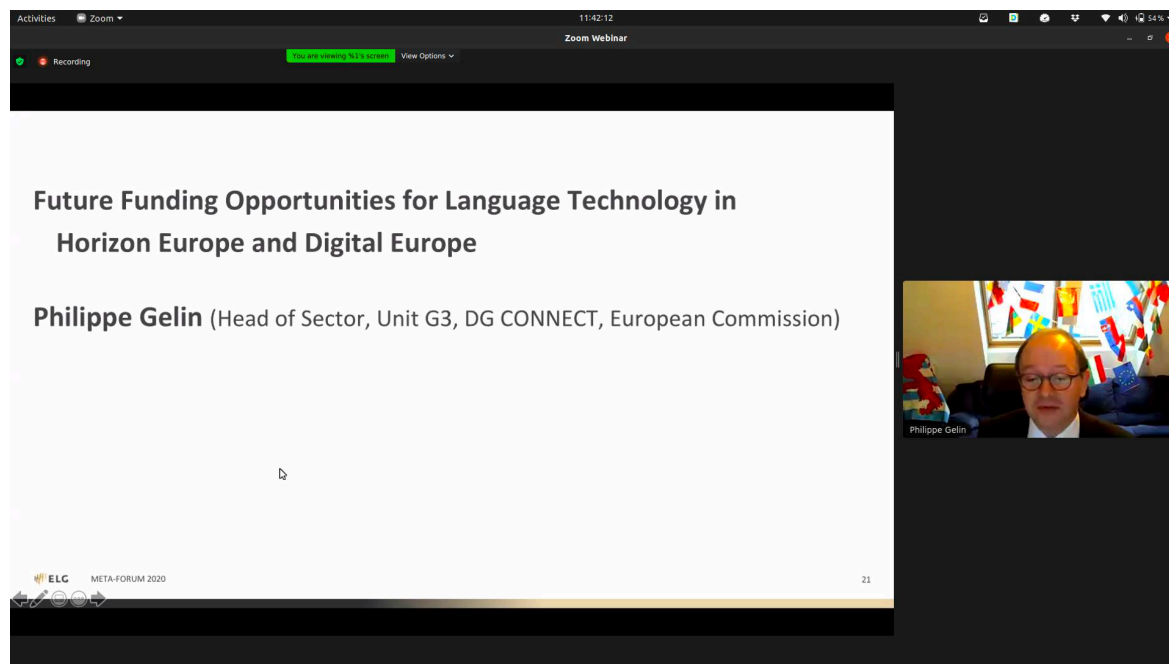


Figure 10: Screenshot of the Sustainability Session

B. META-FORUM 2020 Programme

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
1 December 2020 – META-FORUM 2020 Day 1		
Session 1: Opening		
09:00	Welcome and Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany; Coordinator ELG and General Secretary of META-NET) – <i>Slides</i> Jan Hajič (Charles University, Czech Republic; Chair of the META-NET Executive Board) – <i>Slides</i>
09:15	Opening Keynote Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patrick Breyer (Member of the European Parliament)
09:30	Opening Keynote Speech	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yvo Volman (acting Director, Directorate G, DG CONNECT, European Commission)
09:45	ELG – Broad overview ELG – Language Technology, Services and Resources ELG – Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany) – <i>Slides</i> Kalina Bontcheva (University of Sheffield, UK) – <i>Slides</i> Stelios Piperidis (ILSP, R.C. "Athena", Greece) – <i>Slides</i>
10:30	Virtual Coffee Break	

Figure 11: Programme Day 1, Session 1

Session 2: ELG Open Calls & Pilot Projects		
10:45	ELG Open Call #1 and Open Call #2 – A brief overview of the two open calls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jan Hajič (Charles University, Czech Republic) – <i>Slides</i> • Lukáš Kačena (Charles University, Czech Republic) • Jana Hamřlova (Charles University, Czech Republic)
11:00	ELG Pilot Project: European Clinical Case Corpus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bernardo Magnini (Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Italy) – <i>Slides</i>
11:05	ELG Pilot Project: Lingsoft Solutions as Distributable Containers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Stormbom (Lingsoft, Inc., Finland) – <i>Slides</i>
11:10	ELG Pilot Project: MKS as Linguistic Linked Open Data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Wetzel (Coreon GmbH, Germany) – <i>Slides</i>
11:15	ELG Pilot Project: Basque-speaking smart speaker based on Mycroft AI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Igor Leturia Azkarate (Elhuyar Fundazioa, Spain) – <i>Slides</i> • Josu Aztiria (Elhuyar Fundazioa, Spain)
11:20	ELG Pilot Project: Italian EVALITA Benchmark Linguistic Resources, NLP Services and Tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Viviana Patti (Università Degli Studi di Torino, Italy) – <i>Slides</i>
11:25	ELG Pilot Project: Open Translation Models, Tools and Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jörg Tiedemann (University of Helsinki, Finland) – <i>Slides</i>
11:30	ELG Pilot Project: Extracting Terminological Concept Systems from Natural Language Text	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dagmar Gromann (University of Vienna, Austria) – <i>Slides</i>
11:35	ELG Pilot Project: Textual paraphrase dataset for deep language modelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filip Ginter (University of Turku, Finland) – <i>Slides</i>
11:40	ELG Pilot Project: Virtual Personal Assistant Prototype	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Franz Weber (Weber Consulting KG, Austria) – <i>Slides</i>
11:45	ELG Pilot Project: Streaming Language Processing in Manufacturing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dominik Riemer (FZI Research Center for Information Technology, Germany) – <i>Slides</i>
12:00	Project Expo	
13:30	End of META-FORUM 2020 Day 1	

Figure 12: Programme Day 1, Session 2

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
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2 December 2020 – META-FORUM 2020 Day 2

Session 3: European Language Equality (ELE)		
09:00	Introducing the upcoming EU project European Language Equality (ELE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andy Way (Dublin City University, Ireland; Coordinator ELE) – <i>Slides</i> • Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany; Co-coordinator ELE) • Jan Hajič (Charles University, Czech Republic) • Stelios Piperidis (ILSP, R.C. "Athena", Greece) • German Rigau (University of the Basque Country, Spain)

Session 4: News from the Language Communities		
09:30	Reports from selected ELG National Competence Centres (NCCs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marko Turpeinen (1001 Lakes, Finland) – <i>Slides</i> • Walter Daelemans (University of Antwerp, NCC Belgium) – <i>Slides</i> • Svetla Koeva (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, NCC Bulgaria) – <i>Slides</i> • Maciej Ogrodniczuk (Polish Academy of Sciences, NCC Poland) – <i>Slides</i> • Marta Villegas (Barcelona Supercomputing Center, NCC Spain) – <i>Slides</i> • François Yvon (LIMSI/CNRS, NCC France) – <i>Slides</i> • Moderator: Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany) – <i>Slides</i>

10:45	Project Expo	
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Session 5: European AI Initiatives and Language-centric AI Initiatives		
11:30	AI4EU AI4MEDIA HumanE-AI-Net VISION and CLAIRE BDVA and AI PPP ELG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patrick Gatellier (Thales, France) • Joachim Köhler (Fraunhofer IAIS, Germany) • Yiannis Kompatsiaris (CERTH, Greece) • Paul Lukowicz (DFKI, Germany) • Holger Hoos (University of Leiden, The Netherlands) • Laure Le Bars (SAP, Germany) • Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany) • Moderator: Jan Hajič (Charles University, Czech Republic) – <i>Slides</i>

12:30	Project Expo	
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13:30	End of META-FORUM 2020 Day 2	
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Figure 13: Programme Day 2

Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
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3 December 2020 – META-FORUM 2020 Day 3

Session 6: ELG and the European LT industry		
09:00	European Language Technology companies present themselves and their specific needs, demands and wishes towards the ELG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair and moderator: Gerhard Backfried (SAIL LABS, Austria) – <i>Slides</i> • Andreas Rath (Ondewo, Austria) – <i>Slides</i> • Julius Rusnak (Deloitte, Czech Republic) – <i>Slides</i> • Guy De Pauw (Textgain, Belgium) – <i>Slides</i> • Tomas Moser (PreWave, Austria) – <i>Slides</i> • Luca Dini (Innoradiant, France) – <i>Slides</i> • Arno Scharl (webLyzard, Austria) – <i>Slides</i> • Martin Volk (TextShuttle, Switzerland) – <i>Slides</i> • Antonio Valderrabanos (Bitext, Spain) – <i>Slides</i> • Alexander Siebert (Retresco, Germany) – <i>Slides</i>
10:15	Project Expo	

Session 7: Sustainability of European LT Projects		
11:15	Sustainability of the European Language Grid and other related projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany) – <i>Slides</i> • Thierry Declerck (DFKI, Germany) – <i>Slides</i> • Philippe Gelin (European Commission, DG CONNECT, Luxembourg) – <i>Slides</i>

Session 8: Closing		
11:45	A sneak peek at META-FORUM 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Georg Rehm (DFKI, Germany) – <i>Slides</i>
12:00	End of META-FORUM 2020 Day 3	

Figure 14: Programme Day 3

C. META-FORUM 2020 Survey

META-FORUM 2020 Participants – Survey

*** Erforderlich**

Which of the following characterises you best? *

Auswählen

What area of Language Technology are you active in? *

Meine Antwort

Were you aware of the European Language Grid prior to META-FORUM 2020?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Following the ELG presentations and demonstrations at META-FORUM 2020, how likely are you to: *

	Highly likely	Somewhat likely	Unsure	Somewhat unlikely	Highly unlikely	Did not attend ELG sessions
Use services/datasets provided by ELG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Contribute tools/datasets to ELG	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use the ELG catalogue of stakeholders to find LT suppliers or potential project partners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Figure 15: Follow-up Survey presented at the end of each conference day (1/3)

Have you received funding from Horizon 2020, CEF, or other funding programmes? *

☐ All/Most of our funding is from such programmes

☐ Some of our funding is from such programmes

☐ None of our funding is from such programmes

What do you think will be the impact of COVID-19 on the Language Technology (LT) market/research funding in your country?

Auswählen ▼

Do you expect to have a funding gap between the end of H2020 and related current funding and the new forthcoming EC funding framework (Horizon Europe, Digital Europe)?

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Maybe

Are you aware of what opportunities there will be for LT researchers/companies in the forthcoming EC funding framework (Horizon Europe, Digital Europe)?

Auswählen ▼

Figure 16: Follow-up Survey presented at the end of each conference day (2/3)

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Maybe

Are you aware of what opportunities there will be for LT researchers/companies in the forthcoming EC funding framework (Horizon Europe, Digital Europe)?

Auswählen ▾

Which Language Technology area(s) do you think should be prioritised in funding programmes in the next five years?

☐ Machine translation

☐ Text mining/Information extraction

☐ Text classification/Document classification

☐ Automatic speech recognition/Voice recognition/Speech-to-text

☐ Text-to-speech/speech synthesis

☐ Dialogue systems

☐ Natural language generation

☐ Sonstiges: _____

If you were a funder and could fund only one area of Language Technology, when and what would that be and why?

Meine Antwort _____

Figure 17: Follow-up Survey presented at the end of each conference day (3/3)

D. NCC/LTC Meeting 2020 Agenda



National Competence Centres and Language Technology Council: Virtual Meeting

4 December 2020, 09:30-12:30 (CET)

Virtual Meeting Room: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/700308221>

Agenda

- 09:30 Welcome and Introduction (Georg Rehm, DFKI)**
- Feedback or observations on META-FORUM 2020
 - Group shot (cameras on)
- 09:40 Activities and tasks performed by the NCCs (Katrin Marheinecke, DFKI)**
- Data population of the ELG catalogue
 - Collection of relevant companies and academic/research organisations
 - Collection of relevant data/metadata repositories
 - Collection of relevant services and tools
 - ELG Workshops
 - Short reports on workshops organised so far
 - Lithuania
 - Poland
 - Input to LREC paper, questionnaires, surveys
 - NCC web pages and input
 - Integrating your own services, resources, platforms etc. into ELG or making sure that your own services, resources, platforms are available through ELG
- 10:00 Relevant Conferences and Events in 2021 (all NCC Leads)**
- Where could ELG be presented (especially locally, regionally, nationally)
 - Event planning for the remainder of the ELG project (June 2022)
 - Other NCC dissemination / promotional activities
- 10:30 Break**

Figure 18: Agenda of NCC and European LT Council meeting (1/3)

- 10:45 European Language Equality project (ELE) (Andy Way, ADAPT Centre; Georg Rehm, DFKI)**
- Main goals
 - Concept, project plan and consortium
 - WP1: Update of the META-NET White Papers, how we plan to use ELG within ELE and other related activities
- 11:30 LT-related Bodies in Europe: Overview and Outlook (Georg Rehm, DFKI)**
- Cooperation and synergies between ELE and ELG
 - Structure and constitution of the LT Council
- 12:15 AOB**
- Survey COST-Action NexusLinguarum (Dagmar Gromann)
 - Administrative issues
 - Next meeting (February/March 2021)
- 12:30 End of Meeting**

Expected Participants:

Dagmar Gromann, NCC Austria, Universität Wien
Svetla Koeva, NCC Bulgaria, Institute for Bulgarian Language,
Marko Tadic, NCC Croatia, University of Zagreb
Jan Hajic, NCC Czech Republic, Charles University in Prague
Bolette Sandford Pedersen, University of Copenhagen
Kadri Vare, NCC Estonia, The Ministry of Education and Research
Krister Lindén, NCC Finland, University of Helsinki
Georg Rehm, ELG Coordinator, NCC Germany, DFKI
Maria Gavriilidou, NCC Greece, ILSP, R.C. "Athena"
Tamás Váradi, NCC Hungary, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Eiríkur Rögnvaldsson, NCC Iceland, University of Iceland
Andy Way, NCC Ireland, ADAPT Centre, Dublin City University
Bernardo Magnini, NCC Italy, Fondazione Bruno Kessler
Inguna Skadina, NCC Latvia, University of Latvia
Albina Aukšoriūtė, NCC Lithuania, Institute of the Lithuanian Language
Dimitra Anastasiou, NCC Luxembourg, Luxembourg Institute of Science and Technology
Michael Rosner, NCC Malta, University of Malta
Jan Odijk, NCC Netherlands, Universiteit Utrecht
Kristine Eide, NCC Norway, The Language Council of Norway, Oslo
Maciej Ogrodniczuk, NCC Poland, Polish Academy of Sciences
António Branco, NCC Portugal, University of Lisbon
Dan Tufiş, NCC Romania, Romanian Academy of Sciences
Cvetana Krstev, NCC Serbia, Belgrade University
Radovan Garabik, NCC Slovakia, Slovak Academy of Sciences
Simon Krek, NCC Slovenia, Jozef Stefan Institute

Figure 19: Agenda of NCC and European LT Council meeting (2/3)

Marta Villegas, NCC Spain, Barcelona Supercomputing Center
Hervé Bourlard, NCC Switzerland, Idiap Research Institute
Kalina Bontcheva, NCC UK, University of Sheffield
Itziar Aldabe, IXA Group, University of the Basque Country, Spain
Katrín Marheinecke, Germany, Project Manager ELG, DFKI
Stefanie Hegele, Germany, ELG Team, DFKI
Annika Grützner-Zahn, Germany, ELG Team, DFKI

Figure 20: Agenda of NCC and European LT Council meeting (3/3)