

The European Federation of National Institutions for Language (EFNIL)

announces the

15th Annual conference of EFNIL

at Mannheim on 5 and 6 October 2017

hosted by the Institut für Deutsche Sprache / Institute for the German Language

The general theme of the conference will be:

National language institutions and national languages

The aim of the conference is to provide a rich and differentiated picture of the tasks and activities of national language institutions in various countries, both inside and outside Europe, in relation to the national language or languages of their country. We would like to explore the policies, strategies and methods for promoting national languages, and tracking their development, employed by institutions of national languages and to discuss how the effects of these activities can be measured and documented.

We are looking forward to reports and reflections from EFNIL members and from representatives of central language institutions representing countries outside Europe. We are also interested in learning from officials of the European Commission and the Council of Europe about their plans and aspirations with regard to language planning in Europe.

We invite speakers from European and non-European language institutions to contribute to the conference theme by giving a brief general account of the language situation in their countries, and by answering and discussing the following questions (or at least a selection of them) in their presentations:

- 1) What are the dominant attitudes to language planning in your country?
- 2) How are language planning activities organised within your country at present and does this differ from how were they organised in the recent past?
- 3) What is the role of your institution in relation to language legislation and official language policy in your country?
- 4) How does your institution engage in language debates in your country?
- 5) Is there a division of tasks relating to language planning between your institution and other institutions or bodies?
- 6) What are the main aims and methods employed by the official bodies and/or your institution in language planning?

- 7) What strategies is your institution planning to follow, both in the short term (the next four years) and in the longer term (the next 10 years)?
- 8) Does your institution coordinate its activities with those of institutions in other countries?
- 9) How does your institution track language development in your country?
- 10) How do you and your colleagues measure the effects of your work?
- 11) Are there problems in language planning and policies that you would like to discuss?
- 12) In which way do you think you and your institution can benefit from knowledge about language planning activities in other countries – in Europe – in the world?

We are looking forward to hearing and discussing reports from both language institutions from countries with a strong official influence on the national language(s) and language institutions from countries which exert less official influence. Countries with several official national languages would make interesting special cases. Furthermore, we are interested in comparing European language attitudes, planning strategies and methods with those of countries outside Europe.

We invite representatives of European bodies such as the European Commission, the European Parliament and the Council of Europe to discuss their views and policies regarding national and international language planning goals and activities in Europe.

We invite the members of EFNIL who would like to offer a presentation or to suggest a speaker to contact the EFNIL Secretariat (efnil@nytud.hu) before the end of May.