Welcome address of the Minister of Culture and Media of the Republic of Croatia

Dear President of the European Federation of National Institutions for Languages, dear directors, dear participants!

First of all, I would like to say that I am very sorry that I was not able to meet you in person and greet you in person in Cavtat for this very important conference, the 18th Conference of the European Language Institutions. We all know how important language is, not only as a means of communicating values and beliefs but also as a sign of identity and as a vehicle for conveying our culture and for communicating different cultures. In the process of preserving languages, the role of national institutes has a very important place and I would like to say that for us in the field of culture, the work of national institutes and everything you do to preserve and develop cultures is extremely important.

Your topic for this conference is the position and role of language in the digital age, which we know is particularly relevant and important, and I am convinced that the deliberations that you will have in the coming two days will bring you closer when sharing your experiences and findings, both scientific and other, on what can be done so that we support the study of languages and the role of languages in the digital age.

Once again, I am sorry that I was not able to join you, but I hope that you will have very productive discussions and that you will enjoy your time in Cavtat.