

Ferdie Mac an Fhailigh

Welcome address

A Aire, a ionadaí an Choimisiúin, a Uachtaráin EFNIL, a ionadaithe agus a aíonna,
Fearaim fáilte romhaibh go Baile Átha Cliath.

Is mór an onóir dúinn a bheith ag óstáil na Comhdhála seo, go háirithe agus an téama áirithe seo faoi chaibidil, mar tá seasamh na Gaeilge ar an oileán seo bainteach leis na trí aicmí éagsúla atá luaite sa téama; is teanga oifigiúil í an Ghaeilge, is teanga réigiúnach í agus is teanga mhionlaigh í fosta ar shlíte éagsúla agus is léiriú é sin ar eisceachtúlacht Fhoras na Gaeilge mar bhall de EFNIL sa mhéid is go mbíimid ag feidhmiú in dhá dhlínse.

Is mór againn an deis a bheith againn foghlaim ón taithí atá ag bailleagrais EFNIL agus ár dtaithí féin a roinnt leo. Sampla an-mhaith den roinnt eolais seo is ea an tionscadal atá idir lámha ag EFNIL a dtugtar ELM air. Seo tionscadal a dhéanann monatóireacht ar bhonn leanúnach ar stádas na dteangacha atá faoi chúram na mballeagras – agus níl ansin ach sampla amháin d’obair EFNIL faoi stiúr chalma an Ollaimh Stickel.

Guím gach rath orainn sa Chomhdháil seo agus iarraim anois ar an Aire Ó Cuív an 7ú Comhdháil Bhliantúil de EFNIL a oscailt go hoifigiúil.

Minister, Representative of the (European) Commission, President of EFNIL,
delegates and guests,

I welcome you to Dublin.

It is a great honour to host this Conference, particularly given the theme under discussion as the status of Irish on the island of Ireland relates to all three of the different terms used in the theme (of the Conference): Irish is an official language; it is a regional language; and it is also a minority language in various ways and this illustrates the unique position of Foras na Gaeilge as a member of EFNIL in that we operate in two jurisdictions.

We value the opportunity to learn from the experiences of the other member organizations of EFNIL agus value the opportunity to share our experience with them. A superb example of this sharing of knowledge is the project undertaken by EFNIL called ELM, the European Language Monitor. This project monitors on an ongoing basis the status of the languages which are in the care of the member organizations – and this is just one example of EFNIL's work under the steady stewardship of Prof. Stickel.

I wish us all the best for our Conference and now call on Minister Ó Cuív to officially open EFNIL's 7th Annual Conference.

