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EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

Fifth periodical report
presented to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
in accordance with Article 15 of the Charter

SPAIN



MINISTERIO
DE LA PRESIDENCIA
Y PARA LAS ADMINISTRACIONES TERRITORIALES

SECRETARIA DE ESTADO
PARA LAS ADMINISTRACIONES TERRITORIALES

SECRETARÍA GENERAL DE COORDINACIÓN
TERRITORIAL

DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE RELACIONES CON LAS
COMUNIDADES AUTÓNOMAS Y ENTES LOCALES.

**FIFTH REPORT ON THE APPLICATION BY SPAIN OF
THE EUROPEAN CHARTER FOR REGIONAL OR
MINORITY LANGUAGES, OF THE COUNCIL OF
EUROPE
2014 - 2016**

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I. INTRODUCTION

This fifth report by the Kingdom of Spain, 2014-2016, on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, is made in response to the provisions in this respect set out in Article 15 of the Charter, according to which the first report should be presented one year following the entry into force of the Charter, and subsequent ones should be presented to the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe at three-yearly intervals after the first report. The Charter came into force for Spain on 1 August 2001, and so the first report was presented in 2002, the second one (for the period 2002-2005) in 2006, the third one (for the period 2006-2009) in 2010, and the fourth report (2010-2013) in 2014.

As indicated in the previous reports, it is immediately apparent from these documents that multilingualism is one of the essential features of modern Spain, established in the form of Autonomous Communities, a structure that generates cultural, social and economic wealth, as well as a common heritage that should be respected and promoted, not only to comply with the commitments arising from the Charter, but also to meet Spain's constitutional, statutory and legal obligations.

This Report addresses the issues raised with respect to the previous one by the Committee of Experts, and the recommendations made by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

It is important to highlight in this introduction that the starting point of this period for Spain has been a situation of significant budgetary restrictions, deriving from the context of financial crisis that afflicted Spain in the years preceding the period under examination.

This Report was prepared with the cooperation and information provided by the Autonomous Communities and Cities with Statutes of Autonomy, and by the Ministries of Spain's Central Government.

In view of the volume of information provided by the authorities consulted, this report includes, as concisely as possible, or in summary, fundamentally the changes made and recent activities during the period in question, as requested by the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe, and does not reproduce the information provided in previous reports made by the Kingdom of Spain.

The process to prepare this Report was coordinated by the Ministry of the Presidency and for the Territorial Administrations (State Secretariat for the Territorial Administrations), through the Directorate-General for Relations with the Autonomous Communities and Local Entities.

December 2017

II. LANGUAGES RECOGNIZED AS CO-OFFICIAL IN THE STATUTES OF AUTONOMY OF THE AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITIES

A) SITUATION OF THESE CO-OFFICIAL LANGUAGES IN EACH AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITY

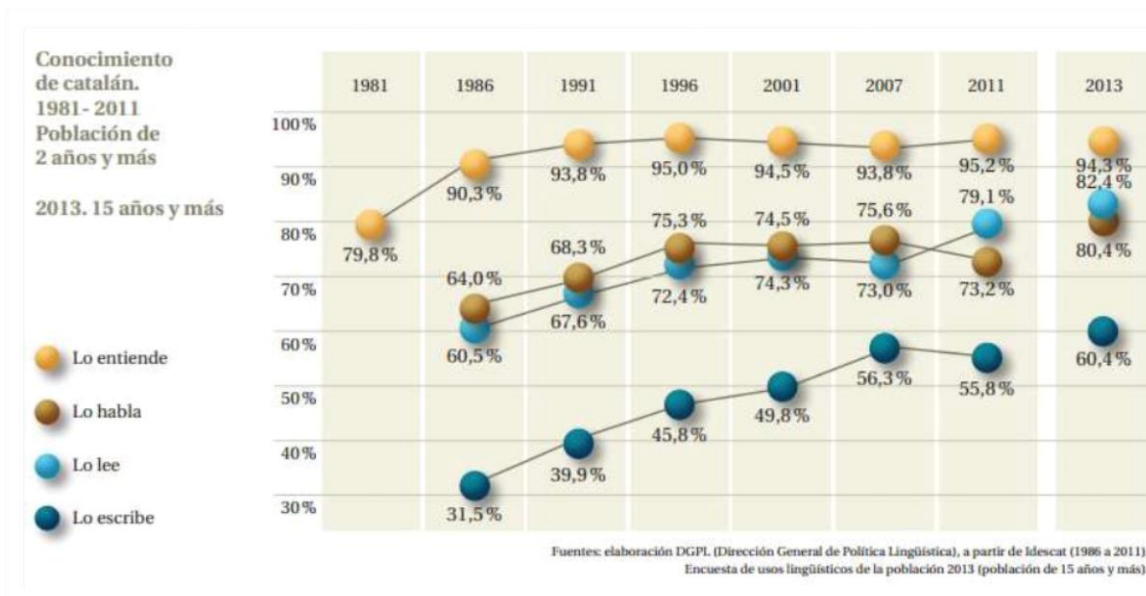
CATALAN IN CATALONIA

INTRODUCTION

Data on the number of speakers

The total population of Catalonia, as at 1 January 2017, is 7,477,131 inhabitants; 64.7% of them were born in the Autonomous Community, 18.26% were born elsewhere in Spain, and approximately 17% were born abroad. These percentages have remained relatively stable in the past four years.

The latest official data on knowledge of Catalan have been provided by two sources of information: the 2011 population census, which contains data on languages, and the Survey of the population's language use (EULP2013), conducted in 2013 by the Directorate-General for Language Policy and the Statistics Institute of Catalonia (the next official survey will be conducted in 2018). The general trend regarding speakers of Catalan since 1981 has been of a growth in percentage. In absolute figures the number has grown as a result of several factors, most noteworthy among which are the expansion of the use of Catalan in education and in the public administration, the teaching of Catalan to adults, and the consolidation of Catalan in the media.



Population of Catalonia. Knowledge of Catalan					
	Can understand it	Can speak it	Can read it	Can write it	Knowledge of all four skills
2013	5,899.4	5,207.2	5,152.4	3,776.3	3,765.6
2008	5,832.2	4,823.4	5,034.4	3,807.3	3,766.1

Source: Data from 2008, Directorate-General for Language Policy and Statistics Institute of Catalonia. Survey of the Population's Language Use, 2008.

Legislative changes in this period

- *Act 5/2016, of 23 December, on the 2017-2020 Catalonia Statistics Plan, and amending Act 23/1998, on Statistics in Catalonia.*

The sub-scope of language comes under the Plan's statistical activity scope of labour and society. The aim is to study in greater depth the basic characteristics of education and training, culture, and language status: the presence of Catalan, the presence of the other co-official languages of Catalonia, and of the other languages used in different spheres.

- *Act 17/2015, on effective equality between women and men.*

This Act includes provisions that have language-related aspects: its Preamble explicitly states that, in order to ensure effective equality between women and men, it is necessary to prevent all forms of discrimination, including discrimination on the grounds of language. The Act's Articles, moreover, regulate several provisions on guaranteeing the non-sexist and non-androcentric use of language.

- *Act 13/2014, of 30 October, on accessibility.*

This Act provides for Catalan Sign Language.

- *Act 16/2014, of 4 December, on external action and relations with the European Union, for the international promotion of Catalan culture and language.*

One of the purposes of this Act is the international promotion of Catalan language and culture. In this regard, it sets forth that the Catalan Government must promote the Ramon Llull Institute as an agent for the international promotion of the Catalan language and of culture expressed in Catalan, and coordinate its actions with those of the Government Delegation abroad and to the European Union, and with those of the Government's sectoral offices abroad. In addition, the Act aims to improve the legal status of Catalan in the European Union, so that it may be used in European institutions and be recognized as official.

- *Decree-Law 8/2014, of 23 December, creating a Register of Court Translators and Interpreters so that they may perform their duties before the judicial bodies located in Catalonia.*
- *Decree 119/2015, of 23 June, on the organization of Primary Education.*

This Decree implements Act 12/2009, of 10 July, on education, in the corresponding educational sphere. Its Articles set forth provisions concerning the status of the Catalan

language, the system of two official languages, and the commitment to a multilingual educational project.

- *Decree 187/2015, of 25 August, on the organization of Compulsory Secondary Education.*

Its explanatory memorandum explicitly notes that Act 12/2009, of 10 July, on education, establishes that Catalan, as Catalonia's own language, is the language normally used as a vehicular language and as a language of learning in the education system. Its Articles set forth provisions concerning the status of the Catalan language, the system of two official languages, and the commitment to a multilingual educational project.

- *Decree 150/2014, of 18 November, on services for immigrants and returnees in Catalonia.*

This Decree establishes the services necessary to acquire language skills in Catalan.

- *Decree 180/2014, of 30 December, on certification of knowledge of legal language.*

This Decree sets forth the evaluation and certification of specific knowledge of Catalan for the legal and judicial sphere, and promotes the assessment of this knowledge for judicial staff who can accredit it when opting for positions in this sphere. It seeks to facilitate knowledge of the appropriate knowledge of Catalan for the judicial sphere and foster its use.

- *Decree 3/2014, of 7 January, amending Decree 152/2001, of 29 May, on the evaluation and certification of Knowledge of Catalan.*
- *Decree 121/2013, of 26 February, on the new regulation of official forms for complaints and claims in consumer relations.*

Official complaints and claims forms were regulated for the first time in Catalonia by Decree 171/1991, of 16 July, which established a unified model for complaints and claims forms and defined the establishments that were required to have them. The current official forms take into account the new provisions on consumer affairs contained in Act 22/2010, of 20 July, on the Consumer Code of Catalonia, and they must be available in Catalan, Castilian, and where appropriate, in English.

- *Decision CLT/1841/2016, of 12 July, publishing the Census of Entities for the Promotion of the Catalan Language.*

Published in the Official Gazette of the Generalitat of Catalonia (DOGC) no. 6663, of 14 July 2016, it updates Decision CLT/1634/2014, of 30 June 2014. This Census was created by Order CLT 59/2012, of 22 February (DOGC no. 6089, of 16 March 2012). These Decisions include a great many entities in the different Catalan-speaking territories that promote the Catalan language in their diverse areas of activity, and that may apply for public grants for that purpose.

- *Decision ENS/2480/2016, of 27 October, creating the Erasmus+ programme and projects involving training mobility and European cooperation, in Vocational Training and special educational schemes.*

According to its explanatory memorandum, this initiative, among other priorities, seeks to intensify the commitment to training and awareness-raising of all students with regard to multilingualism.

- *Decision CLT/3002/2016, of 29 December, announcing the tests to obtain the Directorate-General for Language Policy's Catalan language certificates.*
- *Decision GRI/636/2015, of 6 March, announcing a decision by the Deputy Committee for Regulatory Monitoring and Conflict Prevention and Resolution of the Bilateral Generalitat-National Administration, with regard to Catalan Decree-Law 8/2014, of 23 December, which created a Register of court translators and interpreters so that they may perform their duties before the judicial bodies located in Catalonia.*

The Decision adopted by this Deputy Committee on 24 February 2015 proved its willingness to initiate negotiations to resolve any disputes on powers that may arise in relation with the Decree-Law.

- *Order CLT/49/2015, of 24 February, announcing the Catalan Sign Language (CLS) Award for Promoting CLS.*

The aim is to promote CLS in the terms set forth in Act 17/2010, of 3 June, on Catalan Sign Language. The Order creates a biennial Award, with three categories, aimed at recognizing and awarding individuals, entities or initiatives that have been outstanding in promoting or defending CLS.

1. APPLICATION OF THE CHARTER

Article 7 – Objectives and principles

Paragraph 1

In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:

a) the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;

The public authorities recognize the importance of native languages and work to make such languages means of communication in all spheres of life, without prejudice to the need to learn Castilian and foreign languages such as English. All of this is done within a European framework of ongoing cooperation and promotion of languages—whether or not they are minority languages—as elements that connect us. In this report, mention is made of the different programmes that the public authorities are implementing to recognize and promote native languages.

b) the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question

There are numerous examples of cooperation between Autonomous Communities that share linguistic connections. For example:

The 4th Seminar on Language and Society in Catalan-speaking Territories. Representatives from the governments of all the regions that speak Catalan or similar languages took part, namely: Catalonia, the Autonomous Community of Valencia, the Balearic Islands, Aragon and the corresponding region of southern France, as well as the historically Catalan-speaking city of Alghero (in Catalan, L'Alguer) in Sardinia.

Periodic meetings of the Directorates-General for Language Policy of the governments of Catalonia, the Autonomous Community of Valencia and the Balearic Islands.

Work by representatives of the governments of Catalonia, the Autonomous Community of Valencia and the Balearic Islands to mutually recognize certificates of proficiency in their co-official languages, and on the adoption of unified versions of administrative and legal texts.

c) the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;

In addition to the aforementioned legislation, the public authorities have continued to approve or amend legal provisions that contain precepts concerning the use of languages, to promote and protect the use of Catalan.

Furthermore, in addition to the promotional activities and institutional arrangements detailed throughout this report in the respective sections, many agreements have been reached among entities and institutions affected by these issues in Catalonia regarding the normalization and extension of the use of Catalan.

d) the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;

This precept has been met through a number of initiatives, including the following:

Programa Voluntariat per la Llengua (Volunteering for Language Programme)

Voluntariat per la Llengua (VxL) is a programme of conversation practice in Catalan. It is based on the creation of tandem language partnerships formed by volunteers—who are fluent in Catalan—and learners—who have a basic knowledge of the language and want to increase their fluency. The VxL programme has two different formats: face to face (tandem partners must meet at an agreed place) and online (tandem partners meet online, using video calling platforms).

This initiative has been lauded by the European Union and has been rolled out in Aran, Perpignan, Andorra, the Autonomous Community of Valencia, the Balearic Islands and also in Bolzano (Italy) and Flanders (Belgium).

In total, from 2003 to 2016, 111,924 tandem language partnerships were formed.

T'agradarà llegir en català (You'll love reading in Catalan).

This project was launched by the Association of Digital Magazine Publishers and the Association of Periodicals in Catalan (APPEC), with the support of the Catalan Government's Directorate-General for Language Policy. The project's main objectives are as follows:

- Encouraging people to read magazines in Catalan

- Increasing the presence of Catalan-language magazines in establishments that are open to the public

The figures regarding the programme's reach in 2015 and 2016 are as follows:

2015:

- 9,000 magazines in Catalan
- 28 mastheads (publishers' pilots)
- 300 health centres
- 96 municipalities

2016

- 9,000 magazines in Catalan
- 43 mastheads (publishers request to join the programme)
- 300 health centres
- 48 municipalities (more intensive action in the City of Barcelona)
- 97% of recipients considered the initiative to be very positive
- 20% of recipients are subscribers of APPEC magazines

Tax relief

As in prior periods, the tax relief scheme has been maintained for donations to foundations and associations on the list of non-profit entities that promote the Catalan language, pursuant to Article 1 of Act 21/2001, of 28 December, on Tax and Administrative Measures, published on 31 December. The Act stipulates a deduction of 15% of the amounts of such donations, up to a limit of 10% of the gross tax payable at the regional level. This action provides significant support for the numerous non-governmental organizations whose purpose is to defend the use of Catalan.

Register of Entities for the Promotion of the Catalan Language

The Government of Catalonia continues to promote the inclusion of social entities that work to promote Catalan in the Register of Entities for the Promotion of the Catalan Language. The Register contains foundations and associations that undertake activities to promote the Catalan language within their sphere of work. Promotion of the Catalan language is understood to mean activities that promote positive attitudes towards Catalan or that increase proficiency in and use of Catalan among the general public or among specific groups.

From 2013 to 2016, the number of entities on the register increased. At 2017, the number of entities on the register is 198.

The updated list of entities can be viewed here:

<http://llengua.gencat.cat/ca/serveis/entitats/cens-entitats/entitats-cens/llista-entitats/>

e) the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;

Collaborative initiatives between language communities:

Collaboration protocol:

The Government of Catalonia's Department of Culture and its counterparts in Galicia, the Basque Country and the Balearic Islands have continued with their ongoing dialogue on promotion of their respective native languages, within the framework of joint participation in various projects. This cooperation is collective and effective for Galician, Catalan and Basque.

It should be noted that in 2016, governments of other Autonomous Communities where regional languages are spoken, such as the Autonomous Community of Valencia, Aragon, Navarre and the Principality of Asturias showed interest in joining the protocol, in order to share good practices and projects with the different language communities in Spain. Annual meetings have been held consistently.

The Ramon Llull Institute:

In 2002, the governments of Catalonia and the Balearic Islands established the Ramon Llull Institute as an instrument to promote the Catalan language abroad, as well as the culture expressed in Catalan and the cultural output in general of the two territories. The main objective is to promote Catalan language and culture by internationalizing creators, by promoting artistic and cultural exchanges and by providing assistance for the study of Catalan language and culture at universities. After leaving the Institute in 2012, the government of the Balearic Islands is once again a member.

f) the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;

The Consortium for Language Normalization

The Consortium for Language Normalization (CPNL), formed by the Regional Government of Catalonia and 135 local authorities, offers teaching in the Catalan language throughout the region through 22 different language normalization centres. From the establishment of the Consortium in 1989 to the present (2016 data), more than 1.7 million people have learnt Catalan.

The general courses follow the programmes set by the Directorate-General for Language Policy, pursuant to the Common European Framework of Reference, and are structured into six levels, ranging from the beginner level—for those who have no knowledge of Catalan—to the highest level, which certifies a perfect command of the Catalan language. This teaching can take different forms: face to face, distance learning, or online through Parla.cat or other platforms.

In 2016, the CPNL organized 3,455 face-to-face courses in 159 municipalities, with 69,414 enrolled students. Registrations for face-to-face courses represent approximately 93% of total enrolments—74,610 in 2016—and other formats accounted for the remaining 7%. This figure represents a slight increase on 2015, when 3,292 face-to-face courses were organized in 159 municipalities, for 66,603 enrolled students.

Parla.cat

By launching the virtual learning platform Parla.cat in late 2008, the Catalan Government made knowledge of Catalan available to the general public. The course is structured into four levels of learning: basic, elementary, intermediate and fluent, which correspond to levels A2, B1, B2 and C1, respectively, of the Common European

Framework of Reference for Languages of the Council of Europe. Students can choose between two types of study: open (free of charge) or tutored.

The figures show a gradual increase in the number of people enrolled for the Parla.cat programme, as per the table below:

Parla.cat. People enrolled

2013	2014	2015	2016
158,817	183,325	207,762	230,381

Source: Directorate-General for Language Policy

The Aula Mestra Programme

This is an online platform for the teaching and learning of Catalan, linked to Parla.cat. On the platform, teachers of Catalan from around the world can design, manage and teach courses. On Aula Mestra, courses are sorted into nine categories corresponding to the six levels of general language learning, a category for the speciality language, an information category for teachers and, in addition, a category with courses from language normalization centres that use the platform to offer their online courses.

User numbers grew in the 2013-2016 period, reaching 277,206 visits from 97 different countries in 2016. A total of 3,968 new users registered, bringing the total number of registered users at 31 December 2016 to 14,912. The number of pageviews was 4,116,020, compared with 3,275,191 in 2015.

g) the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;

Citizenship and migration plan. Horizon 2020

This is a continuation of the Catalan Government's 2009-2012 Citizenship and Migration Plan, which brings together the various programmes and activities carried out by the Regional Government's Departments, and also contributes to shaping the Catalan model for the integration of immigrants, which has evolved over many years and involves not only the Catalan Government but also local governments, economic and social partners, civil society organizations and society at large, including newcomers to the region.

The plan's main objective is to develop, advance and coordinate immigration policies in Catalonia.

The language integration plans of the Consortium for Language Normalization (CPNL): Catalan language courses.

The language integration work done by the CPNL consists not only in offering Catalan teaching to newcomers to the region and providing them with language materials and resources, but also in complementary actions that promote use of the language. As a result, the CPNL is the primary tool for language integration for non-speakers of Catalan in Catalonia.

The latest data published by the CPNL demonstrate its importance: more than half of students that enrol with the CPNL do so on courses that are crucial to the integration of immigrants, i.e. beginner and basic level courses. The 2010 Integration Act establishes a basic knowledge of Catalan as a key element of integration, offering through the

CPNL all necessary courses at all levels. Courses in the Castilian language are also offered when requested through the adult learning system.

In 2016, 40,040 students were enrolled. Of the total body of students enrolled on any course, 66.3% are foreign-born. At the course level, this percentage ranges from 88% for beginner and basic courses to 3.4% for the highest level. Notably, the number of foreigners at the highest levels is increasing every year.

The CPNL, in collaboration with the Secretariat for Equality, Migration and Citizenship, has organized Catalan courses for immigrants: 242 courses have been given to 5,291 students.

To help professionals working in language integration of adults find resources, the Directorate-General for Language Policy has created a database of language integration resources. It is a virtual reference platform with more than 400 resources:

- *Vivint junts* (Living together). Materials for learning Catalan.
- *Viure a Catalunya. Aprenem català desde...* (Living in Catalonia. Learning Catalan by...) Materials for first contact with the Catalan language, for practising day-to-day phrases, facilitating communication with the host society. These materials have been prepared based on the different mother tongues of recently arrived groups: Tamazight, Arabic, Spanish, Romanian, Russian, Urdu and Chinese.

Website for newcomers to Catalonia

As indicated in the prior report, this website offers basic, useful and interesting information for persons who have just arrived in Catalonia or plan to move to Catalonia. It is available in the ten languages that are most common among immigrants to Catalonia: English, French, Arabic, Tamazight, Chinese, Urdu, Romanian and Russian. The site is divided into different thematic sections: Catalonia, arrival, legislation, co-existence and social harmony, economy and work, education, health, accommodation, social services, and public participation. www.acollida.gencat.cat

The Catalan Government's Reception Service. A key tool from 2015 onwards.

The Reception Service is a service offered by the Catalan Government through local authorities in collaboration with social partners. The objective is to promote equal opportunities among the population, and to foster the personal autonomy of foreign immigrants, refugees and Catalan returnees who have recently officially registered as residents of Catalonia. The Service was running in 2015, but 2016 was the first year in which it was offered throughout Catalonia and the year in which the first Reception Certificates were issued. The certificate accredits that the person has completed the training in language, workplace skills and Catalan society stipulated in the 2010 Integration Act. The certificate is jointly signed by the Catalan Government and the local authority of the municipality where the person is registered. It can be used in formalities relating to foreigners in Spain, such as certification of stable residence. Applications received: at 31 December 2016, 1,754 applications had been received (34 in 2015 and 1,720 in 2016).

i) i) the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.

Please see the information provided in subparagraphs b) and e) of this section and Part III, Article 14.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not yet done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely-used languages.

In Catalonia, the Language Guarantee Offices continue to operate.

Paragraph 4

In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.

Following approval of Decree 142/2012, establishing the Social Board on Catalan Sign Language, in 2013 a meeting was held to constitute the Board, which is the advisory, consultancy and social participation body as regards the Catalan Government's language policy for Catalan sign language. This body was established in October 2012, in implementation of Act 17/2010, of 3 June, on Catalan Sign Language, approved in 2010. The Board, which is attached to the Culture Department's Directorate-General for Language Policy, has the following duties:

- Studying and analysing matters related to the promotion and dissemination of Catalan Sign Language.
- Advising the Government on the means of meeting the objectives established in the Catalan Sign Language Act.
- Evaluating the objectives and outcomes of actions relating to Catalan Sign Language undertaken by the Catalan Government.

In the 2014-2016 period, periodic meetings were held to fulfil this mandate.

The territorial services for Culture promote the Regional Government's language policy in their respective territories. In some of the territories there are participative bodies that ensure language policies are applied thoroughly, as well as providing a podium for citizens and civil society. At present, there are territorial language committees in Girona, Tarragona, Lleida and Terres de l'Ebre. The latter was established on 27 October 2016, as a space for cooperation to promote knowledge and use of the Catalan language in this southern part of Catalonia.

The institution Síndic de Greuges is, like all those that derive from the Ombudsman, a body for general guarantees of rights, including language rights. This institution is particularly sensitive to such rights, and, in this vein, in September 2014 Síndic de Greuges submitted a Report on language rights in Catalonia, addressing the language-related matters studied by the institution between 2008 and 2013. Prior to this, in March 2014, the Born Cultural Centre in Barcelona hosted the International Symposium on Language Rights and Social Cohesion in Multilingual Societies, organized by the Síndic de Greuges in conjunction with the International Association of

Language Commissioners. A member of the Council of Europe's committee of experts participated in these events.

Paragraph 5

The Parties undertake to apply, mutatis mutandis, the principles listed in paragraphs 1 to 4 above to non-territorial languages. However, as far as these languages are concerned, the nature and scope of the measures to be taken to give effect to this Charter shall be determined in a flexible manner, bearing in mind the needs and wishes, and respecting the traditions and characteristics, of the groups which use the languages concerned.

As a continuation of the actions described in our previous report as regards the Roma people, there is the 2014-2016 Comprehensive Plan for the Roma People in Catalonia, which can be viewed in Catalan at:

http://treballiaferssocials.gencat.cat/web/.content/03ambits_tematicos/18_accio_comunitaria_i_voluntariat/01_accio_comunitaria/04_pla_integral_poble_gitano/pipg2014.pdf

PART III

Article 8 — EDUCATION

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a) i) to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

In the 2015-2016 school year, 1,305,825 pupils were enrolled at private and state-run formal educational establishments in Catalonia.

With some exceptions (schools that follow foreign education models, international centres, etc.), the formal language model applied in Catalonia is that established by the system of conjunctural language learning, which guarantees that pupils are fully versed in the official languages (Catalan and Spanish, as well as Aranese, if applicable).

There are 4,907 educational establishments in Catalonia: 3,443 state-run establishments and 1,464 private establishments. There are also 21 schools that follow foreign education systems: 2 German, 7 British, 3 US, 5 French, 2 Italian, 1 Japanese and 1 Swiss). It should be noted that the centres, teachers and pupils enrolled within these systems are not included in the totals for centres, teachers and pupils within the Catalan education system.

The number of pupils of foreign origin, who require language strengthening in Catalan, has continued to follow a downward trend.

107 neighbourhood education plans have been managed, covering 82 municipalities, 1,005 educational establishments, and 341,858 pupils (214,313 in early years and primary education, and 127,545 in compulsory secondary education and post-compulsory secondary education).

850 activities have been organized to promote social use of the Catalan language, relating to areas such as pop culture, reading, reception of recently arrived families and support with schoolwork.

Assisted study workshops have been organized for 7,269 pupils (4,194 primary school pupils and 3,075 secondary school pupils) from disadvantaged social backgrounds, outside teaching hours, to promote equal opportunities.

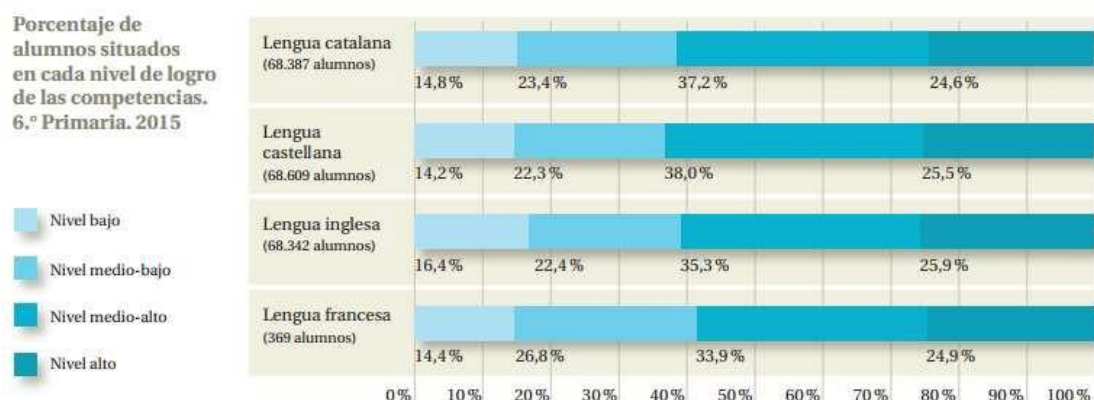
The purpose of all of the actions carried out by the Catalan Government has been, therefore, to ensure that all pupils, irrespective of their origin, are fully versed in Catalan, Spanish and foreign languages.

b) i) to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

Since 2008, Year 6 primary school pupils have been required to take the external skills assessment test, which divides the results pertaining to communicative language skills into four levels: high (very good command), medium-high (good command), medium-low (sufficient command) and low (insufficient command).

In 2015 70,560 pupils took this end-of-year test, representing 94.5% of the pupils enrolled.

The results were similar in the four languages assessed. Over half of the pupils had a medium-high or high level —approximately 25% had a high level and approximately 35% a medium-high level—, around 20% had a medium-low level and the remaining 15% had a low level. In order, the best results are seen in Castilian—63.5% medium-high and high—, followed by Catalan (61.8%), English (61.2%) and lastly French (58.8%).



Fuente: Sistema de Indicadores de Enseñanza de Cataluña, Consejo Superior de Evaluación del Sistema Educativo.

Percentage of pupils in each level of proficiency: Year 6 of Primary School, 2015

- Low
- Medium-low
- Medium-high
- High

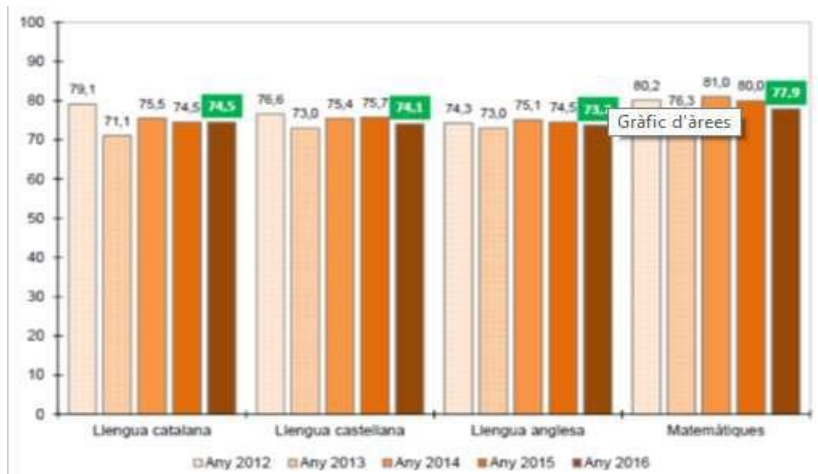
Catalan (68,387)
 Castilian (68,609)
 English (68,342)

French (369)

Source: System of learning indicators in Catalonia. Higher Council for Assessment of the Education System

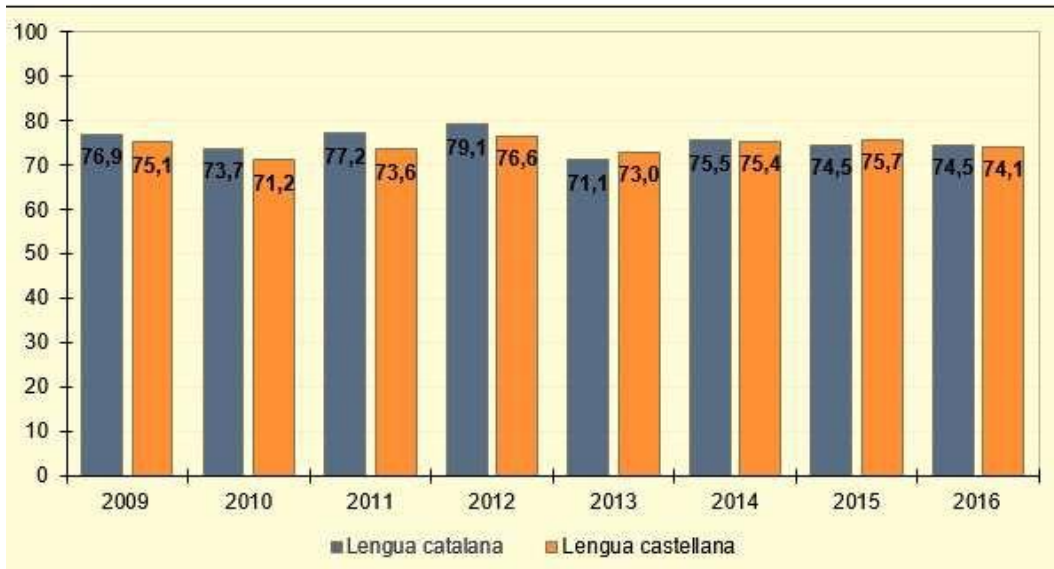
The data on knowledge of Catalan at primary school level is positive, as seen in the graph below, which provides a longitudinal review of the data (2012-2016). The graph shows comparative data on language competency in Catalan, Castilian and English.

Average global mark in all the skills assessed. 2012-2016:



The results for Catalan and Castilian show that, statistically speaking, the average marks obtained by students are similar. In 2016, the average global mark for Catalan language skills was 74.5 (out of 100); for Castilian it was 74.1. These tests demonstrate, once again, that Catalonia's educational model, classified as bilingual (in some areas, based on immersion), guarantees knowledge of both Catalan and Castilian and ultimately seeks to ensure that Catalonia's students end their compulsory education with the same level of proficiency in both languages.

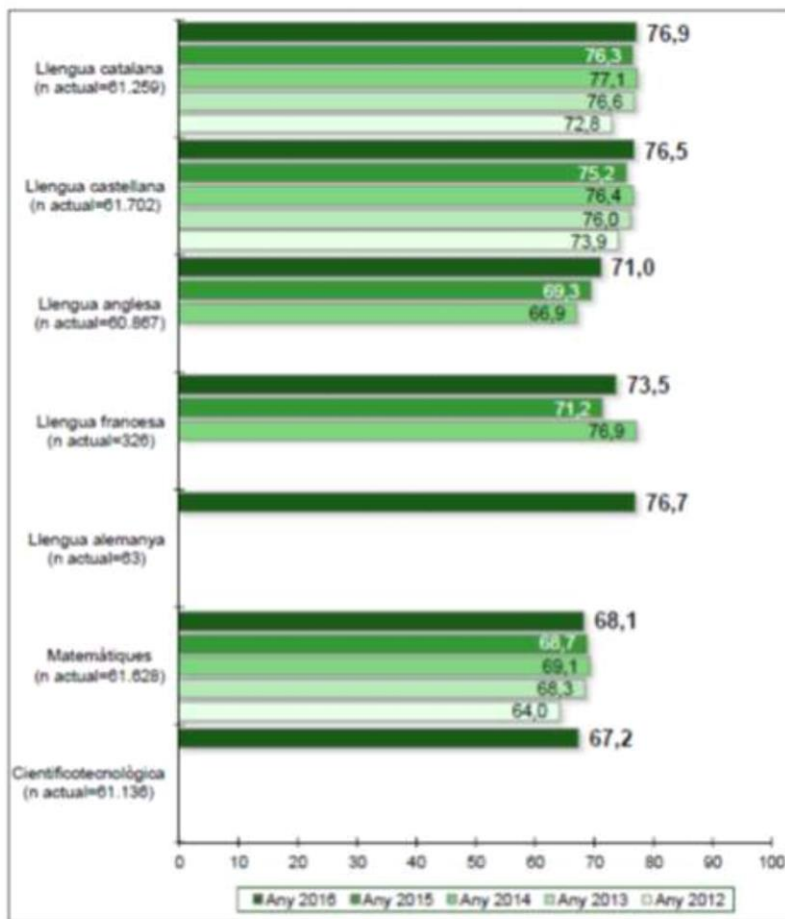
Since the academic year 2008-2009, the Department of Education has promoted an annual external assessment for all Year 6 primary school pupils of the basic language and mathematics skills that pupils should have acquired on completing this stage of their education. It provides information to educational establishments and families on the pupil's strong points and areas for improvement, and facilitates the transition to compulsory secondary education. Moreover, it provides information to the education administration on the situation of the system as a whole. The results of the test solely provide a guideline for the pupil, and do not determine their transition to compulsory secondary education. A number of conclusions can be drawn from the analysis of the data provided by these assessment tests regarding Catalan schoolchildren's command of Catalan and Castilian.



**Catalan
Castilian**

c) i) to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages

In line with the preceding section, the data corresponding to secondary school education reveals similar results, with a high level of knowledge of both Catalan and Castilian:



Catalan
 (current no. = 61,259)
 Castilian
 (current no. = 61,702)
 English
 (current no. = 60,567)
 French
 (current no. = 326)
 German
 (current no. = 63)
 Mathematics
 (current no. = 61,628)
 Science and technology
 (current no. = 61,136)
 2016 2015 2014 2013 2012

The graph shows how knowledge of Catalan has advanced, with an increase from 72.8 points in 2012 to 76.9 in 2016. The same upward trend can be seen for Castilian, with an increase from 73.9 in 2012 to 76.5 in 2016. Consequently, secondary education consolidates the primary stage, with similar levels of proficiency in Catalan and Castilian.

e i) to make available university and other higher education in regional or minority languages.

University language policy is regulated by Organic Law 6/2006, of 19 July, reforming Catalonia's Statute of Autonomy (EAC), Act 1/1998, of 7 January, on Language Policy, and Act 1/2003, of 19 February, Regulating Universities in Catalonia.

Article 35 of the EAC regulates language rights in the sphere of university education, and Article 50.2, focused on the promotion and dissemination of Catalan, specifies that the Government, universities and higher education institutions, in the scope of their respective competencies, must adopt the pertinent measures to guarantee the use of Catalan in all spheres of teaching, non-teaching and research activities. The regulatory framework for language applicable to university education is primarily set forth in Article 22 of the Language Policy Act.

Article 6 of the Catalan University Act is focused on language, specifying that Catalan is the language of Catalonia's universities and, therefore, the normal language of use in its activities. Decree 128/2010, of 14 December, on the Certification of the Language Proficiency of the Academic Staff of the Universities included in Catalonia's University System, regulates the communication skills required of academic university staff in order to teach. This guarantees the language rights of all classroom participants, respecting the language choices of both lecturer and student, while ensuring communicative interaction.

Finally, Article 211 of Act 2/2014, of 27 January, on Tax, Administrative, Financial and Public Sector Measures, regulates the certification of knowledge of a third language, and specifies that students that begin their graduate studies at a Catalan university in the academic year 2014-2015 and subsequent years must, on completing their studies, demonstrate knowledge of one of the foreign languages established in the university access exams (PAU), with a level equivalent to B2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

The Government of Catalonia has continued to foster actions aimed at guaranteeing the presence of Catalan in the university community of Catalonia and to promote its use among academic staff, students and administration and services personnel during the 2012-2016 period. It also promotes actions to increase knowledge of and teaching in third languages, preferably English. The Secretariat for Universities and Research, through the Language Policy Office, is responsible for implementing actions of this type to foster and promote Catalan and third languages in the university sphere, in accordance with the European framework for higher education and the new university language policies derived from the internationalization of Catalan universities and the consequent management of multilingualism in the university community.

The different university projects aimed at promoting Catalan are detailed below:

The purpose of the INTERLINGUA grants offered by the Government of Catalonia is to extend assistance to Catalan universities in order to guarantee the presence and use of Catalan in the country's universities, as well as to promote the presence and use of third languages—preferably English—in an increasingly global academic context. This assistance is available in two modalities:

1. Modality A: assistance for actions for the promotion and use of Catalan and third languages in the university sphere.

2. Modality B: assistance for the maintenance and updating of the self-learning spaces for Catalan and third languages aimed at academic staff, administration and services personnel and students.

INTERCAT is a set of electronic resources providing an introduction to Catalan language and culture, conceived primarily for exchange students who visit Catalan universities. During 2016, INTERCAT recorded a total of 152,708 visits, representing an increase of 5.2% compared with 2015. The number of pageviews was 397,641 and the average number of pageviews per visit was 2.87. The updating and improvement of the basic course in Catalan—Speakcat—which is integrated into the platform, was completed during 2016. A usability analysis of INTERCAT has also been conducted and, on the basis of the results, a new website design is being developed, to enhance the sections and topics that are most frequently consulted and also for its adaptation for mobile devices.

Language use in university studies:

The data on language use in graduate and master's degrees were extrapolated for those subjects for which the teaching language is known, which at all public universities exceed 95%.

As regards language use in graduate studies, based on an analysis of variations over the last three years in relative terms, it can be seen that use of Catalan has remained constant at around 75%, with slight fluctuations: from 76.5% in the academic year 2013-14 to 74.5% in 2014-15 and 75.7% in 2015-16.

There has been a slight growth in third languages, essentially English, from 9.1% in the academic year 2013-14 to 9.7% in 2015-16, given the increasing internationalization of Catalan universities.

Finally, the use of Castilian has remained stable at around 15% (14.6 % in the academic year 2015-16).

As regards master's studies, during this period, the use of Catalan in master's degrees was approximately 55%: 56.8% in the academic year 2013-14, 54.6% in 2014-15 and 55.7% in 2015-16. Use of Castilian was around 25%: 26.2% in the academic year 2013-14, 26.0% in 2014-15 and 24.4% in 2015-16.

f) i) to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages.

During the academic year 2014-2015, 7,555 people took courses in Catalan at official adult learning centres. 733 people took courses in Catalan for non-Catalan speakers at the Official Language Schools, from beginners level to the highest level, C2.

During the academic year 2015/2016, 6,732 students enrolled to study Catalan at adult learning centres.

As regards adult learning at the Official Language Schools, the data are as follows:

Academic year 2015-2016: 704 students enrolled

Academic year 2016-2017: 680 students enrolled

Paragraph 2.

With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

Instituto Cervantes (IC) is committed to disseminating and promoting the official languages of Spain through the language and culture courses taught at the centres included in its network. During the academic year 2015-2016, 53% of the centres included a clearly defined range of different courses in co-official languages—including Catalan—in their academic programmes. In other cases, courses are made available depending on the specific demand for these languages. In the institutional advertising of language courses, the impact of digital mass advertising campaigns is of particular note. Consequently, in addition to brochures and information included on the centres' websites, priority has been given in recent years to promotion on the internet and social networks.

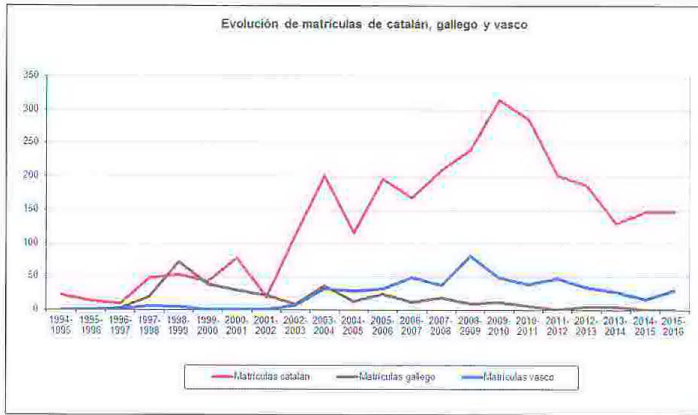
The quality of teaching of the co-official languages is guaranteed by developing curricular objectives and content that adapt the reference level standards of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages to the needs and student profiles of each specific centre. Moreover, the network of centres has permanent teaching staff who are qualified to teach Catalan, as well as the necessary resources to hire contributing teachers when demand so requires.

Also of note is the rise, in recent years, in the number of teachers who have been trained in the teaching of co-official languages.

The general trend in course offerings is toward general language courses for all learner levels, although demand is largely concentrated among the lower levels. The academic programmes of certain centres also include special courses for specific users (children, for example), courses focused on the development of specific skills (conversation, or reinforcement of specific aspects of the language) and courses on culture and civilization.

The historical data on teaching activity since 1994 show sustained growth in demand for Catalan courses up until the academic year 2009-2010, which had the largest number of enrolments in the historical series (315). The global economic crisis of the last five years was reflected in a decline in the volume of activity as regards both Castilian and Catalan courses. Since the academic year 2014-2015, however, there has been a resurgence in activity, consolidated in the academic year 2015-2016 in the case of Catalan courses.

The graph below shows enrolments on Catalan courses (in comparison with other co-official languages, Basque and Galician) since co-official languages began to be taught at the network of centres in the academic year 1994-1995:



Enrolments on Catalan, Galician and Basque language courses
 Enrolments for Catalan
 Enrolments for Galician
 Enrolments for Basque

Actions undertaken by the Autonomous Community:

Catalan-speaking communities abroad have, with the support of the Regional Government, offered 131 Catalan courses and workshops to 54 organizations, with a total of 2,264 students. The map included below shows the centres at which Catalan is currently offered (2016 data).



Article 9 – Justice

Paragraph 1

The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:

a) in criminal proceedings:

i) to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii) to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or

iii) to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or

iv) to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;

b) in civil proceedings:

i) to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii) to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

iii) to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

c) in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

i) to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii) to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

ii) to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

Recommendations by the Committee of Ministers:

1. amend the legal framework with a view to making it clear that the criminal, civil and administrative judicial authorities in the Autonomous Communities can conduct the proceedings in co-official languages at the request of one party;

2. continue to implement legal and step up practical measures aimed at ensuring that an adequate proportion of the judicial staff posted in the Autonomous Communities concerned by the application of Article 9 of the Charter has a working knowledge of the relevant languages;

Article 231 of Organic Law 6/1985, of 1 July, on the Judiciary sets forth the following in relation to the language to be used in judicial proceedings:

“1. In all judicial proceedings, judges, prosecutors, court secretaries and other officers of the courts shall use Castilian, the official language of the State.

2. Judges, prosecutors, court secretaries and other officers of the courts may also use the official language of the corresponding Autonomous Community, if none of the parties objects on the grounds that due to their insufficient proficiency in this language their legal rights would thereby be prejudiced.

3. The parties, their representatives, those addressing them, witnesses and expert witnesses may use the official language of the Autonomous Community in whose territory the proceedings take place, in both oral and written statements.

4. The judicial proceedings conducted and the documents presented in the official language of an Autonomous Community shall, without need of translation into Castilian, have full force and effect. As standard procedure, they shall be translated when they are to have effect outside the jurisdiction of the judicial bodies located in the Autonomous Community, except in the case of Autonomous Communities with the same co-official language. They shall also be translated when so required by law or at the request of a party on the grounds of insufficient language proficiency, as above.

5. Authorization to act as an interpreter in oral proceedings or proceedings conducted in sign language shall be granted pursuant to the applicable provisions governing legal proceedings.”

Paragraph 5, worded in accordance with the reform introduced by Article 3 of Organic Law 5/2015, of 27 April, which entered into force on 18 October 2015, amending the Criminal Procedure Act, and Organic Law 6/1985, of 1 July, on the Judiciary, was introduced for the exact purpose of transposing Directive 2010/64/EU of 20 October 2010 on the right to interpretation and translation in criminal proceedings and Directive 2012/13/EU of 22 May 2012 on the right to information in criminal proceedings.

Additionally, in compliance with the provisions of the Charter, Chapter II “on the right to translation and interpretation” was introduced into the Criminal Procedure Act through Organic Law 5/2015, within Title V on “the right to defence, to free legal assistance, and to translation and interpretation in criminal proceedings”. Article 123 of the Criminal Procedure Act details a series of rights of investigated parties who do not speak Castilian or the official language in which proceedings are held, i.e., the co-official languages of certain Autonomous Communities, and recognizes the right to be assisted by an interpreter who uses a language understood by the investigated party throughout all of the proceedings in which their presence is required, logically including their questioning by the police and the State Prosecution Service, as well as all court hearings; the right to be assisted by an interpreter in conversations with their lawyer; the right to interpretation of all the trial proceedings; the right to written translations of any documents that are essential to safeguarding the exercise of the right to defence, considering that the indictment, the judgment and any decisions by which the investigated party is sentenced to time in prison, must be translated.

As a direct consequence of Article 4 of the Directive, which provides that the Member States shall bear any translation and interpretation costs, Article 123.1.2 stipulates that the expenses shall be borne by the Administration, irrespective of the outcome of the trial.

All the above-mentioned commitments have been fulfilled in theory and in practice. However, the lack of Catalan language skills of a considerable proportion of the Justice Administration staff entails a dependence on translation services, with the ensuing slowness of judicial proceedings. Therefore, increasing knowledge of Catalan among

judicial staff is one of the main challenges that have been addressed in recent years, both by the national and by the regional administrations, with respect in all cases for the scope of authority of each administration.

Although the Spanish authorities consider that certain improvements have been achieved, the Committee of Experts reiterates the need for legal and practical measures to be adopted to ensure that a sufficient proportion of the judicial staff posted in the Autonomous Communities affected by the application of Article 9 of the Charter possess a working knowledge of the corresponding regional or minority language.

At the national level, of particular note in this area is the work of the General Council of the Judiciary (CGPJ), a constitutional, collegiate, autonomous body comprising judges and other legal experts, which is the governing body of the judicial power, aimed at guaranteeing the independence of judges in the exercise of the judicial function.

In 2013, the CGPJ signed an agreement with Spain's National University for Distance Education (UNED), in order to offer the members of the judiciary language learning programmes through the University Centre for Distance Language Learning (CUID) under special favourable conditions. Thus, Catalan courses are on offer for the members of the judiciary, with different modalities (blended and online) and levels.

Moreover, the CGPJ's Lifelong Learning Service manages the annual grants programme for the funding of training activities for members of the judiciary, and other grants programmes promoted by judicial associations, including grants for learning the languages of Spain's Autonomous Communities. These programmes offer members of the judiciary reimbursement for a significant percentage of the expenses incurred in taking courses in Spain's co-official languages (the percentage varies depending on the number of applications, but it exceeds 50%).

The Government of Catalonia, within its scope of authority in the area of justice, has promoted the approval of a legislative instrument to enable the improvement of the language skills of judicial staff. Decree 180/2014, of 30 December, on the certification of knowledge of legal language. This Decree provides for the assessment and certification of specific knowledge of Catalan for the legal and judicial sphere, and proposes that such knowledge, when duly certified, should be taken into consideration when filling judicial staff vacancies. The purpose of the Decree is to facilitate sufficient knowledge of Catalan within the judicial sphere and to promote its use.

The Catalan Government has noted that a higher number of points is now awarded for proficiency in Catalan in the selection processes for Justice Administration support staff vacancies (administrative and trial management corps and judicial assistance corps). In these cases, on the one hand, pursuant to Decree 180/2014, greater value has been accorded to the level of legal language skills, thus promoting language learning that is appropriate to the job position. On the other hand, within these support services corps, and pursuant to Articles 521.3.B and 530 of the Organic Law on the Judiciary, value has been accorded to the possession of a sufficient level of Catalan (C1 of the European Framework) to fill specific job positions (essentially management positions in the common procedural services of the different judicial districts in which the new judicial office model has been implemented).

Moreover, the draft order on the recruitment, appointment and termination of functions of the interim staff of the civil service corps of Catalonia's Justice Administration, prepared by the Department of Justice during 2016 and to be approved in 2017, provides for applicants to be awarded up to a certain number of points for knowledge of

Catalan, in addition to another set of points for its effective use, thereby promoting not only mere knowledge, but also the capacity to use Catalan effectively in the workplace.

The Government of Catalonia has continued to implement a broad Catalan-teaching programme for all judicial staff. Specifically, the following levels are offered: A2, B1, B2, C1 and J (Catalan legal language), in face-to-face, blended and distance learning formats. The range of courses available enables judges, prosecutors and other judicial staff to adapt their language learning to the characteristics of their job (workplace, mobility, availability, etc.). Of significance is the fact that the language service has replaced its training materials, creating a virtual environment (*Aula mestra*) with a specific approach aimed at the Justice Administration and the legal sphere. Taking into account the number of students enrolled on these courses, it can be affirmed that these courses have been very well received.

Judicial staff enrolled on Catalan courses (2016-2017 enrolments)

	Judges, prosecutors and lawyers	Other civil servants	Total
2017	147	1,407	1,554
2016	162	935	1,097
2015	123	866	898
2014	138	847	985
2013	180	1,051	1,231

During the 2016-2017 programme, an optional, practical language module has been incorporated into the C1 and legal language assessment system. The objective is to transfer the knowledge acquired during the corresponding course to practical experience of Catalan in the workplace. Specifically, students who select this option can substitute between 15% and 20% of the final test by carrying out their daily work in Catalan. The purpose of this option is to address one of the problems affecting training in this area, which is that frequently—as reflected in the data on use—the judges and civil servants enrolled on these courses do not subsequently use Catalan in their work, which would enable them to acquire real proficiency in Catalan. Of the 1,554 students enrolled on Catalan courses of all levels, 773 have opted to undertake this type of assessment. It will not be possible to assess the results of this initiative until 2017.

In addition, the Catalan Government has placed a team of 45 language experts at the Justice Administration’s disposal. These experts render their services in the different judicial districts and are responsible for providing advice, translation and proofreading services, as well as for teaching and promoting Catalan. This team provides services to all judicial staff (judges, prosecutors, Justice Administration attorneys and administrative staff). A breakdown of these services is as follows:

Documents produced by the judicial bodies translated and proofread by the language service.

	Documents	Documents	Total
2013	2,845	1,436	4,281
2014	3,382	985	4,367
2015	3,346	610	3,956
2016	3,893	1,207	5,100

Translations into Catalan and updates of template documents from the IT systems

	Documents translated	Documents updated
2013	700	919
2014	407	Permanent updates
2015	2,198	Permanent updates
2016	1,087	Permanent updates

Queries (2015-2016 period)

	Queries answered
2015	1,402
2016	852

Additionally, there has been ongoing provision and improvement of the service via the Justice Administration staff intranet and the website. Access has been provided to language resources (legal terminology and legal writing style resources, terminology search engines, etc.), legislation applicable to the judicial sphere (and in particular the European Charter and the Council of Europe's reports), as well as to Catalan courses and learning resources, both in PDF format and as online content. Of particular note are:

- the provision of an automatic translator for all judicial staff, with the option of the user reviewing the translation themselves or having it reviewed by a language expert. This affords judges, prosecutors and all other judicial staff access to a quick, high-quality translation service.
- the fortnightly issue of the *Saps què?* newsletter—with notes on language—addressed to all judicial staff.
- periodic dissemination via the intranet and the website of examples of best language practices in the legal and judicial sphere (2015-2016 update).
- the ongoing publication of terminological dictionaries, with the release, in December 2013, of the *Diccionari de dret administratiu* [Dictionary of Administrative Law].
- the creation of the website www.terminologiajuridica.cat managed by the terminology centre Termcat, which offers comprehensive information on Catalan legal terminology. This portal includes the work of the Legal Terminology Committee, formed by institutions and professional sectors of the legal world, which began its work in March 2015.

During 2016 the Catalan Government's Department of Justice carried out an exhaustive examination of the judicial documentation relating to public information, and provided the necessary support to all institutions and public information bodies to ensure the availability of all information and documents in Catalan.

As regards promotion of the use of Catalan, of particular note is the campaign *En català, també és de llei* carried out by the Catalan Government's Directorate-General for Language Policy, in collaboration with the Department of Justice and with the support of the different legal professional associations, deployed since 2015. This campaign includes online and audio-visual content (videos made with the participation of judges and legal professionals), information on language rights, an interactive space, an agenda, and public information). The campaign has also been disseminated through the media. Moreover, the campaign has been deployed in the different court buildings with a travelling exhibition on Catalan and language rights in the sphere of justice.

Additionally, in 2017, all judicial institutions were provided with stands containing brochures detailing the campaign's contents.

Dissemination of a number of documents approved at a plenary session of the Catalan Observatory of Justice has also been continued. These documents include *La llengua Catalan a la justícia* and *Manual de bones pràctiques a l'àmbit jurídic i judicial*, which were mentioned in the previous report, in addition to a newly published document: *Criteris per als usos lingüístics a l'Administració de justícia* (October 2013). The latter seeks to clarify different situations in which contradictory interpretations of language legislation applicable to the judicial sphere have been given. It thus provides guidelines equipping judicial staff and legal practitioners in general with the necessary information and criteria to answer any queries that may arise regarding the application of legislation and language rights in their daily work.

During this period, the Department of Justice organized two seminars on the use of Catalan and the exercise of language rights. The first seminar, held on 10 September 2014, was on best practices in the field of justice, and was focused on publicizing and providing a space for opinion-sharing on the manual of best practices, *Manual de bones pràctiques a l'àmbit jurídic i judicial*, mentioned above. The second, held on 24 November 2016, was entitled "Language rights: Catalan in justice". In addition to this seminar, the Department collaborated with the seminars organized annually by two legal associations, the Council of Catalan Lawyers and the Association of Jurists for Catalan.

Collaboration with professional legal associations and promotion of Catalan

Together with the members of the Justice Administration, the key agents in the area of justice are the legal professionals who, in one way or another, work and maintain professional relationships with the Justice Administration. The previous report made reference to the agreements reached with all the different groups (the first of which was reached in 2008 with the Council of Catalan Lawyers) to undertake a concerted action with the Catalan Government to promote the use and teaching of Catalan.

With the experience gained, and to give new impetus to and to standardize and streamline the actions carried out, a new single agreement was reached with professional associations of lawyers, solicitors, labour relations experts, notaries and land, mercantile and moveable property registrars to promote the use of Catalan. This agreement was signed on 12 May 2015 for a period of five years. This agreement has enabled collaboration between the public administration and these groups to implement measures related to training, advisory services and awareness-raising campaigns.

Even though it expires in 2017, we should also mention the agreement of 28 December 2016 entered into between the Administration of the Catalan Government—through the Department of Justice—and the Council of Lawyers for Catalonia. The purpose of this agreement is to implement a pilot programme to promote the use of Catalan in certain professional procedures in the scope of court-appointed legal representation and legal aid. The court-appointed lawyers enrolled on the programme commit to writing their professional documents in Catalan and to informing clients of their language rights. Fulfilment of this commitment is compensated with an economic incentive.

As regards the language learning of legal professionals, online courses with monthly face-to-face sessions have continued to be offered at the B1, B2, C1 and legal language (J) levels.

Within the framework of this concerted action, the Department of Justice offers an automatic translation service (Castilian-Catalan and vice versa) on the intranet of these groups, with the following data on their use:

Use of the automatic translation service by lawyers and other legal practitioners

	Words	Documents
2013	935,342	539
2014	800,057	469
2015	1,002,364	469
2016	823,093	487

Use of Catalan in notarial documents

The number of notarial documents authorized in Catalonia in 2016 totalled 885,407, compared with 870,196 in 2015, 842,674 in 2014, 870,235 in 2013, 852,803 in 2012, and 858,399 in 2011. The number of policies examined totalled 267,596 in 2016, 274,563 in 2015, 257,030 in 2014, and 246,921 in 2013, compared with 272,360 in 2012. Finally in 2011, 299,925 policies were examined.

The total number of notarial documents written in Catalan was 96,102 in 2011, 94,166 in 2012, 82,152 in 2013, 79,828 in 2014, 84,371 in 2015 and 85,332 in 2016, with a slight increase compared with the prior year, although lower than in preceding years.

The Catalan Government exercises the authority conferred upon it by Article 147.1 of Catalonia's Statute of Autonomy on the appointment of notaries, through the announcement, administration and decision-making in points-based selection processes. Since 2009, the points-based selection processes to work in Catalonia and in the territory in which the Catalan Government has authority have been held simultaneously.

Candidates applying for notary positions in this Autonomous Community must provide certification confirming their knowledge of the Catalan language and of Catalan law in the form and within the scope set forth in the Statute and laws. The Language Policy Act 1/1998, of 7 January, expressly stipulates that notaries must have adequate knowledge of the Catalan language.

Since the Catalan Government's first announcement of a points-based selection process, through Resolution JUS/319/2008, of 7 February, (DOGC 5070, of 14 February), the Catalan Government's Department of Justice has complied with the aforementioned provisions requiring that applicants furnish accreditation of their knowledge of Catalan, but has also allowed applicants to compensate for their insufficient knowledge of Catalan by having office personnel who are proficient in the language. In this situation, the level of proficiency in Catalan required of said personnel is greater than would otherwise have been required of the notary.

Agreement between the Catalan Government and the Catalan Association of Notaries to promote Catalan.

On 12 May 2015 an agreement was signed between the Catalan Government and the Association of Notaries, replacing those of 29 July 2011 and 23 December 2009, to promote language integration measures aimed at newly appointed notaries in Catalonia and language training for those already holding such positions in Catalonia. The objectives stipulated in the agreement include improving the proficiency in Catalan of notaries and notary office staff, with data compilation on knowledge of Catalan in

notary offices and the use of the online course Parla.cat, in addition to facilitating the use of Catalan in notarial documentation.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

a) not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language,

Section 4 of the aforementioned Article 231 of the Organic Law on the Judiciary stipulates the following:

4. The judicial proceedings conducted and the documents presented in the official language of an Autonomous Community shall, without need of translation into Castilian, have full force and effect. As standard procedure, they shall be translated when they are to have effect outside the jurisdiction of the judicial bodies located in the Autonomous Community, except in the case of Autonomous Communities with the same co-official language. They shall also be translated when so required by law or at the request of a party on the grounds of insufficient language proficiency.

Consequently, the documents are fully valid and may not be rejected solely because they are written in Catalan. The above notwithstanding, such documents shall be translated, *sua sponte*, if they are to have effect outside the territory in which Catalan is the official language, to ensure that the corresponding interested parties may use and understand them.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.

The public authorities have continued working to make legal texts available in Catalan. Legislative acts and standards with the status of law continue to be published in the Official State Gazette, the result of the agreement between the Official State Gazette and the Entity of the Official Gazette of the Regional Government of Catalonia. The texts available date from 1979 onwards.

As regards the dissemination of legal texts, the LexCat project, included on the Catalonia Legislation Website, has been continued and consolidated during this period. The available texts are presented in their different versions, depending on the periods for which they were or are in force, and are continuously updated. On 17 January 2017 a new collaboration agreement was signed between the Department of Justice and the Office Gazette of the Regional Government of Catalonia to consolidate the work that has been carried out to date and to open up the possibility of publishing European legislation in Catalan.

Number of visits to State legislative texts on the Catalonia Legislation Website

	Visits
2013	22,276
2014	122,584

2015	84,149
2016	109,019

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

Paragraph 1

Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:

- a) i) to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages;***
- b) to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions***
- c) to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.***

The Committee of Experts urges the Spanish authorities to substantially increase the number of Catalan-speaking staff in the competent state administration offices and to implement adequate training programmes.

In the national framework, the training activities to increase and improve the use of Catalan in public services have been constant. In addition to training actions in co-official languages being carried out in different sectors, Spain's General State Administration (AGE) implements its training policy for its civil service staff through the National Institute of Public Administration (INAP), a self-governing body attached to the Ministry of the Treasury and of the Civil Service. INAP has been collaborating for years in promoting the learning of co-official languages at different levels by the AGE's civil service staff posted in the Autonomous Communities that have another official language in addition to Castilian, including the staff of the State Security Forces.

Budget allocated by INAP for the teaching of co-official languages in Catalonia:

2014	2015	2016	2017 (forecast)
€17,976	€22,276	€16,924	€25,000

The courses are provided in collaboration with the Consortium for Language Normalization and the Delegation of the Central Government in Catalonia. They have an estimated duration of 45 hours and are offered online over a three-month period through the www.parla.cat platform, which is managed by the Consortium for Language Normalization.

The course content is focused on meeting the general objectives of the A2, B1, B2, and C1 levels defined in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), with the following correspondence: Basic (A2), Elementary (B1), Intermediate

(B2), and Proficiency (C1), as well as Administrative Language. These courses are offered as required depending on the level certified in the requests.

In the Delegation of the Central Government in Catalonia, 95% of personnel can, at the minimum, understand both spoken and written Catalan.

In the Delegation of the Central Government in Catalonia in 2014, training in Catalan was given to 188 public employees, including both civil servants and non-civil service personnel; in 2015, training was extended to an additional 299 workers, and finally, in 2016, training was offered to another 169 public employees. From 2014 to 2016, a total of 656 public employees received this training in Catalan.

Another aspect to highlight is the taking into consideration of knowledge of Catalan in points-based selection processes for transfers, above all for positions that involve attending to the public. This measure has not only led to an increase in the learning of Catalan by civil servants in order to apply for other positions, but also serves as an incentive so that, depending on their progress and training, they can in future years improve their mastery of the language through higher-level courses which, in addition to benefitting them personally, will increase their capacity to respond to citizens' needs.

Equally noteworthy is the translation of documents and forms into Catalan, as well as the translation of the websites of the Ministries and other national public agencies; forms are generally bilingual, and some are even written solely in Catalan, as in the following cases:

- Office for Alien Affairs: The information and printed material on shared management procedures with the Autonomous Community.
- Administrative Infractions and Authorizations Service: Applications for permits to participate in public festivals carrying a blunderbuss.
- Area of Industry: Application form to obtain certification as an "Expert Consumer Group Leader"

The documents prepared by the Delegation and Sub-Delegations of the Central Government in Catalonia are written in Catalan when they are addressed to Regional or Local Administrations in Catalan territory, and in Castilian when the addressee is the Central State Administration or another Autonomous Administration, in general. In relations with citizens, communications shall be in Catalan when this is the language used initially by the interested party.

Translations shall also be made by the Government Delegation in Catalonia.

Moreover, as regards the languages used in administrative procedures, **Article 15 of Act 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of the Public Administrations, sets forth that:**

1. The language of procedures carried out by the General State Administration shall be Castilian. Notwithstanding the foregoing, those interested parties addressing the General State Administration bodies that are located in the territory of an Autonomous Community may also use the co-official language thereof.

In this case, the procedure shall be carried out in the interested party's language of choice. If several interested parties are participating in the procedure, and there is a discrepancy regarding the language used, the procedure shall be carried out in Castilian. However, any documents or statements required by the interested parties shall be issued in their language of choice.

2. In procedures carried out by the Administrations of the Autonomous Communities and of the Local Entities, the use of the language shall be in accordance with the provisions of the corresponding Autonomous Community's legislation.

3. The Public Administration carrying out the procedure must translate into Castilian any documents, dossiers, or parts thereof that are to be effective outside the territory of the Autonomous Community, and any documents addressed to interested parties who request this explicitly. If they are to be effective in the territory of an Autonomous Community where that same language, other than Castilian, is co-official, they shall not need to be translated.

Finally, please refer to the section on the measures adopted by the General State Administration in compliance with the Charter (Section II.B) to complete this information.

Paragraph 2.

In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:

- a) the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;***
- b) the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;***
- c) the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;***
- d) the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;***
- e) the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;***
- f) the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;***
- g) the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.***

Please see the previous reports, as there are no indications that the use of Catalan has decreased in Catalonia's Public Administrations in practice.

It should be borne in mind that since the entry into force of the Catalan Language Normalization Act of 1983 it is mandatory for Autonomous and Local Administrations to approve language regulations to promote the use of Catalan. The Language Policy Act of 1998 maintained this obligation and extended it to all public corporations.

In addition to the various municipalities already mentioned in the previous report on the implementation of the Regulation governing the use of Catalan, other municipalities

were involved in the period analysed in this report, such as the municipality of Sant Climent de Llobregat (2013) or that of Lleida (2014), among others.

Paragraph 4.

With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:

- a) translation or interpretation as may be required;***
- b) recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;***
- c) compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.***

Royal Legislative Decree 5/2015, of 30 October, approving the consolidated text of the Act on the Basic Statute of Public Employees, stipulates, with regard to the use of languages, the following:

Article 54. *Principles of conduct:*

1. *[Public employees shall] guarantee that the public is served in the language of their choice provided that said language is official in the territory.*

Access to public employment and to the service relationship:

Article 56. *General requirements.*

2. *Public administrations, within the scope of their powers, shall provide for the selection of public employees with the appropriate skills to fill positions in Autonomous Communities which have two official languages.*

Knowledge of co-official languages shall continue to be taken into consideration when filling positions in territories with more than one co-official language.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 1

The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:

a) to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:

i) to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages;

Of all the media, language use is most equal in radio, although Catalan is becoming increasingly present in this medium, and the two most popular radio stations (the public station *Catalunya Radio* and the private station *RAC1*), broadcast entirely in Catalan.

RAC1 and Catalunya Ràdio are still the most listened to radio stations in Catalonia. Both of these stations broadcast in Catalan, a growing trend that was already reflected in the previous report.

Audience share of general-interest radio stations in Catalonia. 2014-2016. Figures in percentages:

	1-2014	2-2014	3-2014	1-2015	2-2015	3-2015	1-2016	2-2016
RAC1	42,2	38,2	40,7	41,0	38,2	41,8	39,6	43,8
Catalunya Ràdio	18,9	21,1	21,8	21,1	21,2	22,0	22,7	18,9
SER	17,1	16,6	15,4	17,3	17,0	16,0	16,2	14,6
Onda Cero	6,7	8,2	7,3	8,8	8,5	5,1	8,0	8,0
COPE	6,1	6,3	5,4	5,5	7,5	6,7	4,8	4,5
RNE	4,5	3,8	4,7	3,6	3,8	5,3	3,9	5,6
Altres	4,5	5,8	4,7	2,7	3,8	3,1	4,8	4,6
Total	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0	100,0

Cambiar todos los comas por puntos en los porcentajes presentados en el cuadro

Television has much larger audiences, but Castilian is considerably more prevalent in this medium and there are many more channels in this language. While Castilian clearly predominates, the number of programmes in Catalan increased during the 2013-2015 period.

Catalonia's Audiovisual Council (CAC) is the independent authority that regulates audiovisual communication in Catalonia. Its purpose is to safeguard compliance with the legislation applicable to entities that provide audiovisual communication services, whether public or private. The principles of action of the CAC are the defence of freedom of expression and information, of pluralism, of journalistic neutrality and honesty, and of free competition in the sector.

The CAC is governed by Act 2/2000, of 4 May, on Catalonia's Audiovisual Council, as well as by the framework law governing the sector, i.e. Act 22/2005, of 29 December, on Audiovisual Communication in Catalonia.

The CAC works to increase the presence of Catalan on radio and television. To this end, the CAC unanimously approved two agreements stipulating a minimum quota for vocal music in Catalan, which affected a total of 11 radio stations. Service providers could request a reduction, by virtue of Agreement 295/2007, which approved the CAC's Instruction on the presence of Catalan language and culture in the media. Pursuant to this Instruction, specific adaptations may be made of the rule that requires vocal music programming to have an appropriate presence of songs produced by Catalan artists and that at least 25% of them are sung in Catalan or in Aranese.

Specifically, the CAC renewed the authorization of 10 radio stations of the broadcasting company UNIPREX, SAU, to broadcast 12% of its music content in Catalan. Of these 10 radio stations, seven broadcast under the trademark Europa FM, while the other three did so under the trademark Melodía FM (Agreement 21/2016). The second Agreement refers to the authorization granted to Ràdio i Televisió de la Catalunya Nova, SL, for the Valls radio station (103.2 MHz), whereby 18% of the vocal music it plays shall be in Catalan (Agreement 63/2016).

Similarly, and for the purpose of reflecting on current trends in the world of audiovisual communication, the CAC prepared the White Paper on Audiovisual Communication in

Catalonia to strengthen the presence of Catalan in the total range of audiovisual content on offer.

In general lines, in 2016, the predominance of television channels and groups broadcasting in Castilian (69%), and the considerably lower number broadcasting in Catalan (19%) means that Catalan is still far from reaching an optimal space that is similar to that of Castilian.

e) i) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages.

The consumption of newspapers in Catalan has grown notably in the last three years, from 49% in 2013 to 57.1% in 2015. While the percentage of newspapers in Castilian is still higher, the gap is nevertheless closing little by little.

As regards the consumption of magazines, 33.3% of the magazine-reading population have read magazines in Catalan compared with the 85.3% that have read magazines in Castilian. The consumption of magazines in Catalan has fallen by 12 percentage points compared with 2014, while consumption of magazines in Castilian and other languages has increased slightly.

104 professional digital media are published in Catalan, with a total of 76 million pageviews per month (August 2016 data): 14 more media than in the same period of 2015.

f) ii) to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages.

The Regional Government of Catalonia annually offers grants to media entities that use the co-official languages of the Autonomous Community (Catalan and Aranese), or to communication projects that seek to include these languages in some of their programmes or sections.

From 2013 to 2016, these grants were provided in nine specific areas, divided by medium (print, digital media, radio and television) and purpose. While structural grants are designed to ensure the continuity of media supplied in Catalan or Aranese, project grants contribute to the creation of new initiatives that benefit communication in Catalan:

- Structural grants for private digital media in Catalan or Aranese.
- Structural grants for private radio stations in Catalan or Aranese.
- Structural grants for private TV stations in Catalan or Aranese.
- Structural grants for publishing print periodicals in Catalan or Aranese.
- Grants to non-profit-making entities for projects in Catalan or Aranese that contribute to promoting journalism and a communication space in Catalan.

The following table shows the grants awarded to media during the 2013-2016 period, by type of grant offered:

TYPE OF GRANT	2013	2014	2015	2016
Structural grants for private digital media in Catalan or Aranese	€981,298.98	€1,212,269.83	€1,379,451.94	€1,480,301.88
Structural grants for private radio stations in Catalan or Aranese	€535,405.71	€543,189.99	€563,238.70	€569,378.50
Structural grants for private TV stations in Catalan or Aranese	€603,792.30	€585,659.01	€548,768.25	€570,000.00
Structural grants for publishing print periodicals in Catalan or Aranese	€4,043,161.47	€4,094,334.77	€4,054,638.82	€3,891,874.86
Grants to non-profit-making entities for projects in Catalan or Aranese that contribute to promoting journalism and a communication space in Catalan	€0.00	€801,220.00	€812,914.00	€794,500.00

The following table shows the number of dossiers processed, by the type of media to which they were addressed, in the 2013-2016 period

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Print media	205	211	203	199
Digital media	62	66	68	87
Radio	15	15	15	19
TV	22	24	19	20
Associations		32	23	26
Total dossiers	304	348	328	351

2. The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such

formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

In 2015, the Catalan Audiovisual Media Corporation proposed the creation of this space between TV3, IB3, and the future Valencian radio and television, to be called À Punt, as confirmed in 2017. This proposal is being worked on, with the objective of creating an audiovisual space in Catalan for all the territories that share the language. For further information please visit the following link:

http://www.elnacional.cat/ca/politica/tv3-ib3-valencia-canal-conjunt_161142_102.html.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 1

With regard to cultural activities and facilities—especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technologies—the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:

- a) to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;***
- b) to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;***
- c) to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;***
- d) to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;***
- e) to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;***
- f) to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;***
- g) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;***
- h) if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.***

The Catalan Institute of Cultural Companies (ICEC), which until 2011 was called the Catalan Institute of Cultural Industries (ICIC), is a body under the Catalan Government's Culture Department, created in 2000 for the purpose of promoting artistic creativity and the production, distribution and dissemination of cultural content, through the development of cultural companies and by fostering consumption of cultural works and the expansion of markets for Catalan culture.

Its main lines of action are the awarding of grants and assistance to Catalan companies for the production, promotion, distribution and dissemination of culture, and for the restoration and improvement of equipment; collaboration with other entities and organizations for the promotion of cultural dissemination and consumption; and support for the promotion abroad of professional projects through participation in international trade fairs and events, thus facilitating these companies' access to international markets.

During this period, ICEC has annually offered different lines of grants to support audiovisual production in which the use of Catalan is an element of added value. These grants include the following:

- Grants for improving audiovisual projects that are under development
- Grants for the production of feature films and large-scale productions
- Grants to foster the screening and distribution of feature films and large-scale productions
- Grants for the production of short films
- Grants for the production of feature films with artistic and cultural merit
- Grants aimed at independent production companies for producing documentary films for TV broadcast
- Grants aimed at independent production companies for producing TV fiction feature films for TV broadcast.

Books

From 2013 to 2016, assistance for production and promotion was maintained to ensure the competitiveness of books in Catalan and promote books in Aranese, and reading itself. Thus, different lines of support were offered:

- Support for production. Assistance for production is combined with commercialization, so that their entry into the market is guaranteed.
 - Grants for publishing in Catalan or Occitan, and for publishing sheet music by Catalan composers.
 - Grants for publishing materials of special cultural interest in Catalan or Occitan, and for publishing sheet music of special cultural interest
- Support for distribution and promotion.
 - Grants for activities aimed at the public or at the media, for promoting individual books or collections of books in Catalan or Occitan.
- Trade fairs, festivals and markets.
 - In order to strengthen the book industry and give visibility to books in Catalan, ICEC has a Trade Fair Plan, at the territorial level, paying particular attention to the thematic

diversity of publications, to bringing publications closer to the public, and to establishing a calendar of trade fairs, so that books are in the news throughout the year.

The latest available data on book reading show that in 2015, 26.5% of book readers read at least one book in Catalan, 65.4% read at least one book in Castilian and 8.2% read at least one book in another language. It should be noted that since 2013 the percentage of books read in Catalan or in another language (other than Castilian) has, if anything, increased.

Performing arts

ICEC's strategic objective in this area is the consolidation of theatre and circus companies in Catalonia. To meet this objective, in the 2013-2016 period a number of different grants were announced for professional companies, production companies, production and cinema management companies, private theatres, associations of sector professionals and companies and entities engaged in activities to promote the performing arts.

In 2015 an extension was approved to the agreement between the Department of Culture, the Cinema Owners Guild of Catalonia and the Federation of Film Distributors (FEDICINE), first signed in 2011. The objective of this agreement is to establish a network of cinemas in Catalonia that permanently screen new releases dubbed into Catalan, to promote and increase the presence of Catalan on cinema screens. This agreement is open to the rest of the distribution and exhibition sector in Catalonia, and is in line with the objectives established in Act 20/2010, of 7 July, on Cinema.

The number of films dubbed into Catalan increased in the 2013-2015 period. The number of films dubbed or subtitled in Catalan grew from 0 in 2013 to 9 in 2015. It goes without saying that the corresponding budget was also increased during this period.

In 2016, 117 feature films corresponding to over 175 screen hours were dubbed into Catalan. 579 feature films —representing 860 hours of film in original version with Catalan subtitles—, 379 episodes of TV series—over 315 hours—and 400 short films were subtitled in Catalan.

There were new releases of 70 feature films by 25 distributors, 15 more than in the prior year: 27 feature films dubbed and 30 subtitled into Catalan. Furthermore, 13 films were both dubbed and subtitled into Catalan, four more than in 2015.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

Instituto Cervantes (IC) is committed to disseminating and promoting the co-official languages of Spain through the language and culture courses taught at its centres, which include Catalan. (Please see the information set forth in Article 8, paragraph 2 of this Report).

Catalan-speaking communities abroad have carried out Catalan language courses and workshops with the support of the Government of Catalonia.

Specifically, in the last year (2016), a total of 54 courses were given in the following countries:

Distribution by country of Catalan language courses offered at the Casals catalanes (Catalan cultural and recreational centres located outside Catalonia) (2016)

Country	Number of entities
Germany	4
Argentina	14
Australia	2
Austria	1
Belgium	1
Brazil	2
Canada	1
Colombia	1
Costa Rica	1
Cuba	1
Ecuador	2
Rest of Spain	6
France	6
Italy	1
Japan	1
Luxembourg	1
Mexico	2
United Kingdom	1
Paraguay	1
Sweden	1
Switzerland	2
Uruguay	1
Chile	1
Total	54

As regards the Institut Ramon Llull, please refer to Part II, Article 7, paragraph 1e of this Report.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:

- a) to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;***
- b) to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;***
- c) to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;***
- d) to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs***

The public authorities continue working to ensure the presence and use of Catalan in the socio-economic sphere.

To extend the use of Catalan in the social sphere, above all to those people who have spent least time in the Autonomous Community, various departments of the Catalan Government have undertaken initiatives to intensify language learning among the population.

Thus, in the regulatory framework of Act 10/2010, of 7 May, on the Reception of Immigrants and Returnees to Catalonia, particular emphasis has been placed on promoting the Catalan language in social settings. To meet the objective of making Catalan the public language shared in public life, a number of courses have been offered, divided into the following three modules: Catalan language and knowledge of Catalan society; work training; and internships in the chosen job sector. In this way, social and occupational settings are linked. This internship programme was continued throughout 2013-2016 and remains ongoing. Similarly, the Government of Catalonia undertakes activities to teach Catalan to adults of foreign origin who do not know how to read or write in Catalan, and for whom attending classes at adult learning centres is difficult. The objective is for these students to reach the minimum level required to do the beginners' courses in Catalan offered by the Consortium for Language Normalization.

The ultimate objective of these activities is to promote the use of Catalan through conversation groups and sessions focused on knowledge of the local environment, Catalan society and Catalan culture, as well as other actions.

Òmnia Programme

This is a social inclusion programme harnessing information and communication technologies. The vehicular language for this programme is Catalan. While it does not feature any classes or workshops focused strictly on language learning, the programme includes multiple activities promoting the use of Catalan as an instrument for social integration and for the prevention of social exclusion. These include sociocultural actions in the local environment; specific actions focused on social and occupational integration; basic digital alphabetization; use of word processors; learning to prepare digital presentations; and training in creating blocks and editing sound and music.

The dynamism of Catalan on social networks

In addition to the number of potential speakers, Catalan is also a dynamic force on social networks, where it is used very actively. The data show a growing consumption of websites in Catalan. According to the data for 2015, 54.5% of the population that used the internet visited websites in Catalan, 89.1% visited websites in Castilian, and 29.0% other languages. Compared with 2014, visits to websites in Catalan were up by 7 percentage points, other languages by 9 percentage points, while the number of visits to Castilian websites continued to increase. The greater multilingualism of internet use led to a rise in the percentage corresponding to all languages in 2015.

Fundació puntCAT promotes all types of activities related to the creation, management and monitoring of .cat domain names and, in general, to raising the profile of Catalan language and culture on the internet and in new information technologies.

Webs al PuntCat is a competition aimed at students in compulsory secondary education, post-compulsory secondary education and Intermediate and Higher Training, and is focused on the creation of websites in Catalan. The objective of the

competition is to promote knowledge of new technologies, the creativity of the participants, and the correct use of Catalan. A jury of specialists from the fields of education and information and communication technology selects the winning entries for each category. Subsequently, the best projects are entered in the international Dot Award competition, which annually recognizes the best websites designed by young people. The competition only accepts websites developed in the academic sphere by groups of two to five students who are supervised by tutors from their school.

The Comerç.cat project is a Fundació puntCAT initiative aimed at increasing the number of businesses in Catalonia with websites in Catalan and with .cat domain names. Currently, only three out of every 10 companies with fewer than 10 employees have websites. Comerç.cat focuses particularly on Catalonia's small business owners, to encourage them to publicize their businesses online and in Catalan. Fundació puntCAT creates websites in Catalan free of charge for business owners that acquire a .cat domain name.

The Government of Catalonia has created the Català i empresa, ja estàs al dia? programme to provide language assistance to any company that requests it, in relation to customer service, business opportunities, quality service, market language, etc. In this space, companies can also take a test to determine whether they are up-to-date on the availability of Catalan, the legal provisions that regulate it, or a series of grants for projects organized by business organizations and companies to broaden the range of products and services in Catalan and to promote its use. All of this information is available online.

8 raons perquè l'empresa parli català (8 reasons for companies to speak Catalan)

This is an awareness-raising programme on language and business, which forms part of the Government's actions to support the promotion and use of Catalan in the world of business. It also aims to increase the use of Catalan in the business sphere, to broaden the range of products and services in Catalan, and to safeguard consumers' language rights. The programme presents Catalan as a language of trade; modern, competitive and a necessary tool for quality service. It presents eight reasons for companies to sell in Catalan.

The campaign is primarily aimed at business organizations, professional colleges and associations, trade union organizations, consumer organizations, business studies faculties and business schools, as well as at associations, local entities, professional training centres and other entities and institutions.

In 2015 the Consortium for Language Normalization created the Language and Company newsletter, a monthly publication which reports on news related to Catalan and the business world. The newsletter can be consulted at the following link: <http://www.cpnl.cat/noticies/14761/primer-numero-del-butlleti-llengua-i-empresa-del-cpnl>

The Consortium for Language Normalization has established over 150 service points and has to date collaborated with over 500 companies through the provision of language advisory services, making it a byword in Catalonia for training and advice in relation to the Catalan language.

Paragraph 2

With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:

a) to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;

b) in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;

c) to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;

d) to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;

e) to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.

Please refer to Section II-Application of the Charter in the General State Administration to obtain information on State-owned public services.

At the level of the Autonomous Communities, the Administration of the Catalan Government has continued promoting the Catalan language in the field of healthcare. An example of these efforts is the creation of the “Toma el pulso a la lengua catalana” campaign, which seeks to foster a positive attitude towards the use of Catalan by offering language tools and resources to medical professionals who are new to Catalonia. Additionally, courses in Catalan focused specifically on healthcare are available through the Consortium for Language Normalization.

Moreover, Termcat (a Catalan terminology centre) has created basic lexicons for different branches of healthcare, as well as an encyclopedic medical dictionary in Catalan (demcat.cat)

Also of note are the 42 language exchange pairings—almost double the prior year’s figure—at six centres or healthcare services, to ensure knowledge of everyday Catalan in the field of medicine and healthcare. This initiative is aimed at redressing certain weaknesses detected in the previous report, which mentioned that *«During the site visit, the speakers’ representatives drew the Committee of Experts’ attention to the fact that, in certain sectors, particularly in that of healthcare for the elderly, services in Catalan required improvement»*.

Additionally, pursuant to several laws and regulations currently in force in Catalonia, the use of Catalan is mandatory in relation to safety issues. The most important of these is Act 22/2010, of 20 July, on the Consumer Code of Catalonia, mentioned in our previous report and referred to in the Committee of Experts’ report for the third period.

The Administration of the Government of Catalonia has continued collaborating with numerous associations and entities to promote the use of Catalan in the socio-economic sphere and to inform the public of consumers’ language rights.

This line of action is within the framework of the initiatives of the Catalan Consumer Agency presented in 2011 with the new Consumer Code of Catalonia through informative sessions held in the main business organizations. The objective was to

explain the content of the new law and advise companies on how to adapt their businesses accordingly.

During the 2013-2016 period, the Catalan Consumer Agency continued collaborating on the creation of a business network characterized by its quality and excellence in customer service and for safeguarding consumers' rights. The website includes a section informing and advising on consumers' language rights: http://www.consum.cat/temes_de_consum/drets_linguistics/

Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

The Parties undertake:

a) to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;

b) for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/ or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.

Some examples of integration and cooperation among different territories are as follows:

In 2016 the Catalan Government approved the signing of the collaboration agreement with the Municipal Council of the Western Pyrenees and the University of Perpiñán to undertake a study on the social use of the Catalan language in the corresponding area of the South of France in which Catalan is spoken.

The 4th Seminar on Language and Society in Catalan-speaking Territories. Representatives from the governments of all the regions that speak Catalan or similar languages took part, namely: Catalonia, the Autonomous Community of Valencia, the Balearic Islands, Aragon and the corresponding region of southern France, as well as the historically Catalan-speaking city of Alghero (in Catalan, L'Alguer) in Sardinia.

CATALAN IN THE BALEARIC ISLANDS

INTRODUCTION

Data on the number of speakers

According to the Survey of Language Use in the Balearic Islands (EULIB), since 1970 the proportion of the resident population of the Balearic Islands born in Catalan-speaking territory—despite having increased by approximately 230,000 people—has dropped from 82% to 60%. This decrease affects both the process by which knowledge of Catalan is passed on and the uses made of this language.

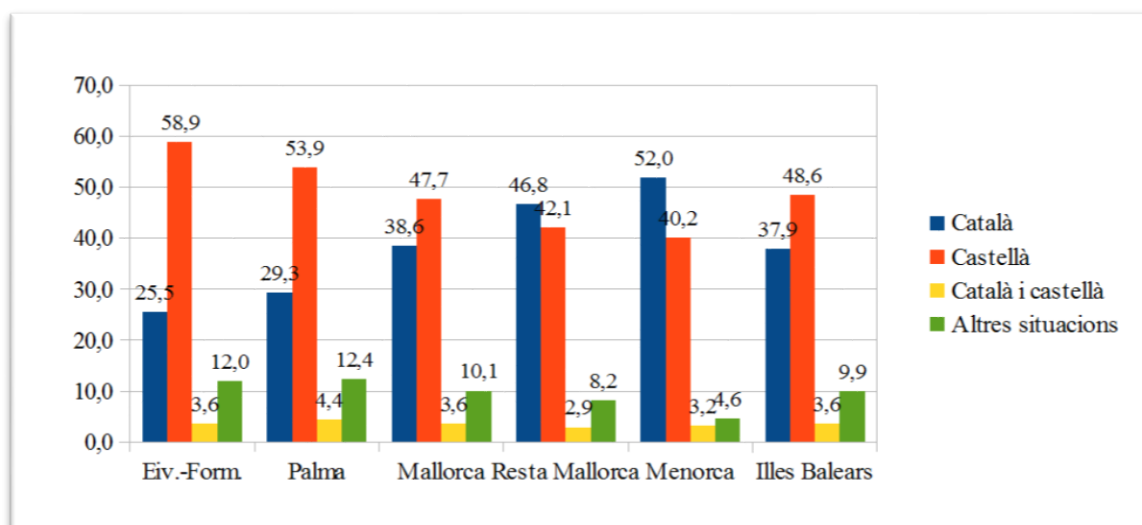
These data were taken from the 2014 EULIB, a telephone survey of language use conducted among a sample of 1,800 individuals aged 15 or above from the population of the Balearic Islands, mostly during November and December 2014 (some surveys were completed during the first few days of January 2015).

The 2014 EULIB resulted from the collaboration between two institutions: the University of the Balearic Islands and the Department of Culture of the Government of Catalonia. Subsequently, on 25 October 2016, the Department of Transparency, Culture and Sport signed an Agreement with the Department of Culture of the Government of Catalonia and the University of the Balearic Islands to participate jointly in the final stage of the EULIB.

The main purpose of the 2014 EULIB was to obtain a rough overview of language use among Balearic Island residents aged 15 or above, with particular focus on the use of Catalan.

According to the survey, Catalan is the first language of 37.9% of the population aged 15 or above, even though the language mostly widely spoken as a first language is Castilian (48.6%). The option of considering both languages to be their first language was chosen by 3.6% of those surveyed. The remaining 9.9% stated that they spoke other languages or language combinations.

Graph 3. First language by territorial unit 2014 (%)



Catalan
 Castellian
 Catalan and Castellian
 Other situations

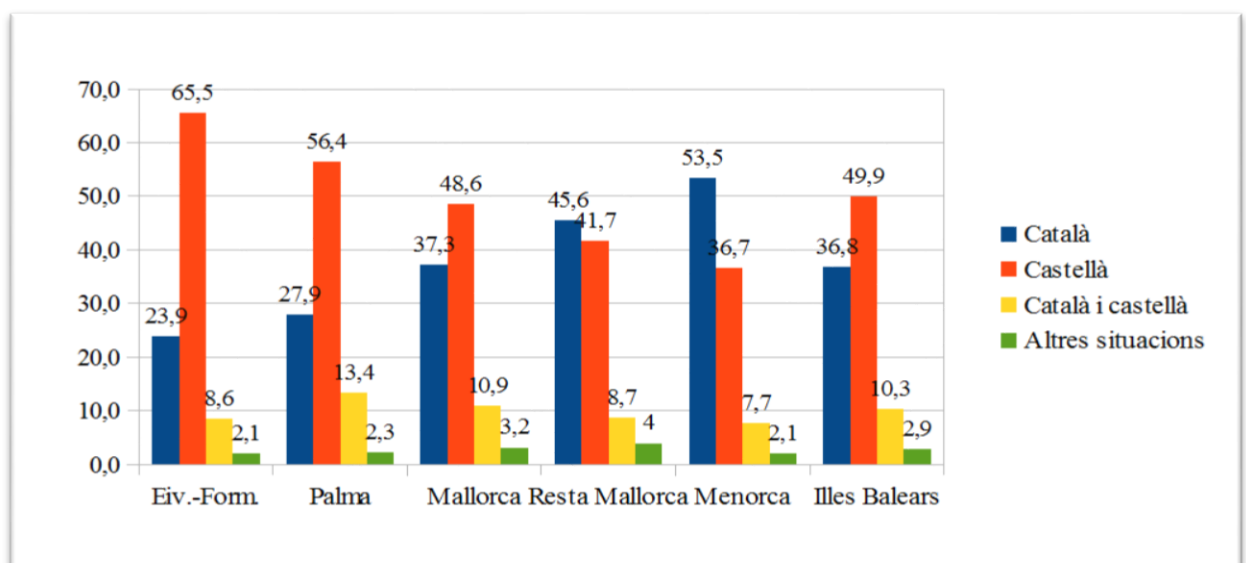
Eiv.-Form
 Palma
 Mallorca
 Rest of Mallorca
 Menorca
 Balearic Islands

As regards knowledge of Catalan, 80.5% of those surveyed answered that they knew how to speak Catalan—a lower number than those who stated they could speak Castellian. It should be noted that the number of people who know how to speak Catalan is twice the number for whom it is their first language (41.5%, including those who said they could speak Catalan and those who said they spoke both Catalan and Castellian). The proportion of those surveyed who answered that they knew how to speak Catalan amounted to 89% among the youngest age group (15-29) and 83.3% among older people, but was 74.2% among those aged 30-44.

From 2004 to 2014, the number of people who confirmed their mastery of the four basic language skills has increased, despite a 3 pp increase in the non-native component of the Balearic Islands' population.

As regards usage, Catalan is used habitually by just over one third of the population (36.8%), a similar value —1 point lower— to the number of people for whom it is their first language (37.9%), while almost half of the population surveyed (49.9%) claimed that the language they usually used was Castellian and one out of every ten claimed to use both languages indiscriminately (10.3%).

Graph 5. Habitual language of communication by territorial unit 2014 (%)



Catalan
Castillian
Catalan and Castillian
Other situations

Eiv.-Form
Palma
Mallorca
Rest of Mallorca
Menorca
Balearic Islands

The different areas of residence also accorded different values to the languages that are habitually used. While in Ibiza, in the Palma area and in Formentera, the use of Castillian is greater than the use of Catalan as the habitual language of communication (66.5-22%, 56-28% and 53-43 %, respectively), in the rest of Mallorca (42%-46%) and in Menorca (37-54%), Catalan obtained higher values than Castilian.

In the consumer and services areas, the greater use of Catalan is largely concentrated in relations with the Local Administration, which ranks 12 points above the use made by the survey respondents in their relations with the State Administration. Moreover, there is also a difference between how much Catalan is used in department stores and how much it is used in small shops (in this case, there is a difference of 10 points).

Almost half of the survey respondents that speak Catalan stated that when addressing someone they didn't know they always or usually used Catalan and a third (31.6%) asserted that they never used Catalan to address a stranger.

Changes in the legal framework

Act 1/2016, of 3 February, amending Act 3/1986, of 29 April, on language normalization in the Balearic Islands, introduces the following legislative changes:

Article 1.2a: implementing the progressive and normal use of Catalan in the official and administrative sphere is established as the purpose of the Act.

Article 6.1: consideration of Catalan as the language of the public administrations of the Balearic Islands.

Article 8.2: Catalan as the default language for copies and certificates.

Article 9: obligation to regulate the use of Catalan in the sphere of authority of the Government of the Balearic Islands, the Island Councils and town councils.

Article 14: Catalan is established as the only official language for place names, and the Government and the Island Councils are declared competent to decide the official names.

Article 16.1: provision on the promotion of measures for the gradual training of the personnel of the public administrations.

Article 34: regulation of the use of Catalan in the administrative functions and activities of the Government, the Island Councils and town Councils, and the obligation to

include express reference to knowledge of Catalan in the rules governing calls to fill vacancies in the civil service.

Act 4/2016, of 6 April, on language training measures for the recovery of the use of Catalan in the field of the civil service, was also approved during this period. This Act amends Act 3/2007, of 27 March, concerning the civil service of the Autonomous Community of the Balearic Islands, establishing knowledge of Catalan as a prerequisite to entering the civil service. It also stipulates, through transitional provisions that shall remain in force until the Act is implemented through regulations, the levels of knowledge of Catalan that must be evidenced by civil servant, non-civil servant and statutory personnel.

APPLICATION OF THE CHARTER

Article 7 – Objectives and principles

Paragraph 1

In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:

- a) the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;***
- b) the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language, in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;***
- c) the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;***

During the plenary session held on 7 July 2016, the Catalan Language Social Board unanimously approved the Language Policy Action Plan for 2016-2021, based on the document prepared by the planning committee as a result of the task assigned to it by the Social Board during its previous plenary session.

The specific Action Plan details a systematized set of actions considered in the General Language Normalization Plan for the Balearic Islands, approved by the Catalan Language Social Board in 2009. This Plan is based on two objectives: to remove all the obstacles that could dissuade citizens from using Catalan and—potentially—from teaching it to their children; and to ensure that all citizens of the Balearic Islands can enjoy full linguistic security and can carry out any social activity in Catalan, as both active and passive users.

The Action Plan proposes a structured intervention based on five linguistic rights:

- Right to access knowledge of Catalan.
- Right to use Catalan in the field of leisure.
- Right to use Catalan in the field of healthcare.
- Right to use Catalan in commercial relations and in the field of services.
- Right to use Catalan in the field of communications.

e) The maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the

establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;

Collaboration between regional governments of territories in which the same language or similar languages are spoken: the representatives of the Directorates-General for Language Policy of the Autonomous Communities in which Catalan or a similar language is spoken (Aragon, Catalonia and the Autonomous Community of Valencia) attended the event held by the Government of the Balearic Islands on 29 April 2016 to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Language Normalization Act. Since then, the Directorates-General have remained in constant contact. Meetings are held periodically.

The first Seminar of the Spanish State's Directorates-General for Language Policy—addressing linguistic diversity and the role that the State must assume in this multilingual reality—was held on 14 May 2016. In addition to the Valencian Government, which hosted the Seminar, the Government of the Balearic Islands, the Government of Catalonia, the Government of the Basque Country, the Government of Galicia, the Government of the Principality of Asturias, the Government of Aragon and the Government of Navarra were also invited to participate. The event focused on the analysis of several documents addressing linguistic diversity, such as the Council of Europe's Fourth Report on the application of the European Charter, or collaboration agreements between those Autonomous Communities with official languages other than Castilian. It was also decided that a joint and permanent working document be prepared, to coordinate actions and share best practices, and to strengthen the legal protection of plurilingualism in the Spanish State.

Also of note is the Institut Ramon Llull, a consortium initially formed by the Government of Catalonia, the Government of the Balearic Islands and the city council of Barcelona, whose purpose is to raise the profile of and further the external dissemination of Catalan language and culture in all its forms. Following the withdrawal of the Balearic Islands from the consortium in 2012, in 2015 the new executive branch of the Balearic Islands Government sought ways to collaborate with the Institut Ramon Llull to pave the way for its future re-integration, thereby necessitating the creation of a delegate of the Government of the Balearic Islands for the Institut Ramon Llull, a position established to Decree 93/2015, of 20 November.

Similarly, on 20 May 2016, the Government of the Balearic Islands and the Government of Catalonia signed a collaboration agreement whereby the Balearic Islands may also have a presence in the Catalan Institute of Cultural Industries and in the Institute of Catalan Letters for the period during which the reintegration of the Balearic Islands in the Consortium of the Institut Ramon Llull (IRL) is being managed. The budgets prepared in 2016 for 2017 included 500,000 euros for activities to promote Catalan culture and language abroad. At the present date, the Government of the Balearic Islands once again forms part of the Institut Ramon Llull.

f) the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;

As regards making available the necessary resources to enable people to study Catalan, there are a number of different variables to be considered. The teaching of Catalan, referred to further on in this report, in relation to Article 8 of the Charter, is fully integrated into the formal education system.

g) the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;

Several public administrations offer courses in Catalan at all levels outside the formal education system.

The data referring to the National Public Administration Institute (INAP) and to Instituto Cervantes are presented in the corresponding section (Articles 8 and 10 of the Charter).

At a regional level, of particular note is the Department of Culture, Participation and Sport, which provides courses through the Balearic Studies Institute. The data on students enrolled on these courses (which are offered in face-to-face, blended and remote modalities) during the period studied are as follows:

<i>Summary of enrolments on courses organized by the Balearic Studies Institute</i>						
	2014		2015		2016	
ENROLMENT PERIOD	COURSES	ENROLLED	COURSES	ENROLLED	COURSES	ENROLLED
OCTOBER-JANUARY	29	769	31	1,023	40	1,039
FEBRUARY-MAY	19	455	23	618	41	1,102
SUMMER	4	65	5	101	8	180
WORKSHOPS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE	4	62	7	91	6	125
	56	1,351	66	1,833	95	2,446

Furthermore, the Department of Culture, Participation and Sport has a network of Catalan centres (for self-learning) in Ibiza, Mallorca and Menorca, to facilitate access to knowledge of the Catalan language (as detailed below).

The Balearic School of Public Administration (EBAP) also has a Catalan Language Plan aimed at public sector workers, which is referred to below in relation to Article 10 of the Charter.

Additionally, most local administrations also offer Catalan language training. For example, the Island Council of Formentera offered, between 2014 and 2016, forty courses at levels A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2; the City Council of Maó, in 2014, provided six initiation courses in Catalan for new arrivals.

Other bodies that offer Catalan language teaching include: the Paraula Language Services Centre, the Official Language Schools, the University of the Balearic Islands, Spain's National Distance Education University, the Open University of Catalonia, the Aula Cultural Association, Cáritas, the Joana Barceló Foundation, the Institute of Ibizan Studies. Furthermore, citizens have access to online resources for learning Catalan as well as to voluntary language programmes.

h) the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;

As regards the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities, Catalan language and culture can be studied at over 150 universities across the globe. There are over 6,000 students enrolled on such courses, distributed across 30 countries. Among the universities that advance the knowledge of Catalan, 88 receive financial support from the Institut Ramon Llull and 19 offer a specialization in

Catalan studies. In 2016, the Institut Ramon Llull dedicated 1,270,722 euros in grants for university teaching.

Outside the Catalan-speaking territories, Catalan can be studied at seven universities in Spain. Moreover, there are several bodies that offer Catalan courses. One of these is the Blanquerna Cultural Centre of Madrid, which belongs to the Government of Catalonia. Another such body is the Catalan Centre of Madrid, which is a private initiative and receives public and private grants. There is also the Casa de Cataluña in Seville, which is a private initiative. The Espacio Cataluña Topalekua (Catalan social and leisure centre), in San Sebastián, the Casal Catalán in Tenerife and certain Official Language Schools also provide Catalan courses. Some of these bodies are private initiatives and others, such as the Official Language Schools, are funded by the corresponding autonomous governments.

i) the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.

In this regard, initiatives have been carried out that have been analysed with respect to Article 14 of the Charter, relating to transfrontier exchanges.

Paragraph 4

In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.

The composition of the Plenum of the Catalan Language Social Board was modified in 2016. This Board, which is currently under the auspices of the Department of Culture, Participation and Sport, is an advisory body on linguistic matters created pursuant to Decree 64/2002, of 3 May. The modifications made in 2016 sought to adapt the Board to the current social climate and to the reality of the Balearic Islands' public institutions. Having updated its composition, the Catalan Language Social Board held a plenary session on 7 July, at the headquarters of the Parliament of the Balearic Islands.

The Standing Committee of the Social Board met twice during 2016, as required by its rules. The first meeting, as mentioned previously, was held on 26 May, to prepare for the plenary session. The second meeting was held on 14 December.

Part III.

Article 8 – Education

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

- a) i) to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages;***
- b) i) to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;***

c) i) to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

Between 2011 and 2015, the Government of the Balearic Islands incorporated the comprehensive treatment of languages (CTL) on the curriculum of the Balearic Islands' schools. The CTL is a legal framework regulating the language to be used at the non-university teaching centres of the Balearic Islands. The first law regulating the comprehensive treatment of languages was Decree 15/2013, of 19 April.

Moreover, on 14 April 2014, the Language and Cultural Training Plan was regulated through the Order of the Department of Education, Culture and Universities of 14 April 2014, which stipulates the qualifications required to teach Catalan as a subject and to teach other subjects in Catalan, specific to the Balearic Islands, in formal non-university education. The Fourth Report of the Council of Europe's committee of experts requests more information on this Order, the purpose of which is to establish a framework of reference on the basis of which «*to acquire and update the language skills necessary both to teach Catalan at certain educational levels and to teach curricular areas related to non-university education in the Catalan language*» (Art. 1).

On 9 May 2014 the Department of Education, Culture and Universities presented an Order developing certain aspects of the comprehensive treatment of languages at the non-university educational centres of the Balearic Islands, regulating the comprehensive treatment of languages for the following academic years. This Order specified that educational centres had to approve certain CTL projects to adapt their language project to the new legislation. On 31 July 2014, as a result of the refusal by many of the academic staff to approve the CTL projects that complied with the new law, the Government issued a new decree requiring the centres to apply the CTL projects albeit without the approval of the academic staff.

On 24 September 2014 the High Court of Justice of the Balearic Islands issued four orders demanding the precautionary suspension of the execution of the Order of the Department of Education, Culture and Universities of 9 May 2014. As a result of the court decisions, the application of the comprehensive treatment of languages in the curriculum was left to the discretion of each school. This is indicated in Decree 34/2015, of 15 May, which sets forth the Compulsory Secondary Education curriculum for the Balearic Islands.

Moreover, Decree 35/2015, of 15 May, was approved, establishing the post-compulsory Secondary Education curriculum for the Balearic Islands. Section *k* of Article 4 of this Decree has been amended, and is now worded as follows:

To know, critically assess and respect the culture, history and artistic and cultural heritage, especially of the Balearic Islands, and strengthen the feeling of belonging to the Catalan cultural and linguistic realm.

Article 10.5 of Decree 35/2015 has also been amended, and is now worded as follows:

Students must study Catalan Language and Literature I from the set of subjects chosen freely by each Autonomous Community. Catalan Language and Literature I and Castilian Language and Literature I must receive the same treatment. The teaching programmes for these two modules must reflect a combined effort as regards the content, objectives, methodological aspects and assessment.

Article 11.5 of Decree 35/2015 has also been amended, and is now worded as follows:

Students must study Catalan Language and Literature II from the set of subjects chosen freely by each Autonomous Community. Catalan Language and Literature II and Castilian Language and Literature II must receive the same treatment. The teaching programmes for these two modules must reflect a combined effort as regards content, objectives, and methodological aspects and assessment.

Decree 28/2016, amending Decree 32/2014, of 18 July, establishing the primary education curriculum for the Balearic Islands, was approved on 20 May 2016. Decree 28/2016 amends Article 4.8 of the previous Decree, which is now worded as follows:

To know the fundamental aspects of the natural sciences, the social sciences, geography, history and culture, especially of the Balearic Islands, strengthen the feeling of belonging to the Catalan cultural and linguistic realm, and understand linguistic and cultural diversity as a right of peoples and of individuals.

Decree 28/2016 also amends Article 9.4 of Decree 32/2014, which is now worded as follows:

Students must study the following module from the set of subjects chosen freely by each Autonomous Community for each academic year:

Catalan Language and Literature: students may be exempt, pursuant to prevailing law, from being assessed on Catalan language and literature. However, students must take this module.

The Department of Education and Universities of the Government of the Balearic Islands is authorized to promote language normalization in the sphere of education. One of the most important measures carried out is the creation of the Technical Board for language normalization and consensus of the school language model in 2016, whose objective is to propose those actions in the area of language normalization that are considered the most urgent and, following the advice of a committee of experts, to discuss the school language model of the Balearic Islands.

e)iii) if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, sub-paragraphs i) and ii) cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;

As regards the percentage of subjects taught in Catalan at university level, after affirming the nature and functions of the University of the Balearic Islands (UIB) with respect to the Catalan language, referred to in previous reports issued by Spain, the UIB's statistical report on the languages in which subjects were taught at the university during the academic year 2013-2014 showed that Catalan was used to teach 47.44% of subjects, followed by Castilian, with 34.16% of subjects.

This report was prepared based on information relating to 2,233 subjects distributed among 3,413 groups. The teaching guides only contain information related to the language used in 88.7% of subject groups, and 11.3% of the teaching guides do not include information on this aspect.

According to the report on the academic year 2015-2016, Catalan is used in 48% of subjects, a figure that is slightly higher than in the previous report. However, communications in Castilian have increased, to a percentage of 37.3%.

Finally, according to data published by the UIB in 2015, the percentage of students that completed the university access exams in Catalan increased from 70.9% in 2005 to

81.1% in 2015.

f) i) to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or

The Language Area of the Balearic Studies Institute (ILLENC), which is a Balearic Islands Government body engaged in promoting the language and culture of the Balearic Islands, organizes Catalan courses at all levels aimed at individuals aged 16 or above. Each year the ILLENC accepts enrolments for two general courses, held from October to January and from February to May, as well as for intensive summer courses. It also organizes language initiation workshops aimed at new arrivals. For further information, see the data provided above (Article 7 of the Charter, section 1.g)

g) to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;

As mentioned previously, section k of Article 4 of Decree 35/2015, of 15 May, establishing the Post-compulsory Secondary Education curriculum for the Balearic Islands, has been amended, and now reads as follows:

To know, critically assess and respect the culture, history and artistic and cultural heritage, especially of the Balearic Islands, and strengthen the feeling of belonging to the Catalan cultural and linguistic realm.

In the case of primary education, Decree 28/2016 amends Article 4.8 of Decree 32/2014, of 18 July:

To know the fundamental aspects of the natural sciences, the social sciences, geography, history and culture, especially of the Balearic Islands, strengthen the feeling of belonging to the Catalan cultural and linguistic realm, and understand linguistic and cultural diversity as a right of peoples and of individuals.

h) to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a) to g) accepted by the Party;

A collaboration has been carried out with the Institute of Catalan Studies (IEC), through which the IEC can establish a direct line of contact with teachers of Catalan language at primary and secondary schools. Furthermore, the material prepared by the Catalan Teaching Service is being recovered, catalogued and recorded and the Language and Culture Initiation Plan (PALIC) has been updated.

i) to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

Order of the Department of Education, Culture and Universities of 8 November 2013 amends and regulates the Technical Advisory Committee for the Teaching of Catalan and the Teaching of Other Subjects in Catalan.

Another action to be highlighted is the preparation of a guide for the review and reworking of language projects at schools. This is a tool which analyses the sociolinguistic context of each school to guarantee knowledge of the two official languages by students upon completion of their compulsory education, with particular focus on the normalization of the Catalan language.

The figure of the language normalization coordinator at schools was reinstated during the 2016-2017 academic year through the Decision of the Director-General for

Professional and Teacher Training of 5 May 2016. This Decision approved the instructions for the development of training and innovation programmes at schools and for schools or intermediary centres for the academic year 2016-2017 to promote the language normalization and cultural revitalization of the Catalan language, specific to the Balearic Islands, with input from the teaching centres.

Paragraph 2

With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

Please refer to the information that has been provided with regard to the activity of Instituto Cervantes for this paragraph of the Charter in the section of this report corresponding to Catalan in Catalonia.

Article 9 – Justice

Paragraph 1

The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:

a) in criminal proceedings:

i) to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii) to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or

iii) to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or

iv) to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;

b) in civil proceedings:

i) to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii) to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

iii) to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

c) in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

i) to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii) to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

iii) to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

d) to take steps to ensure that the application of sub-paragraphs i) and iii) of paragraphs b) and c) above and any necessary use of interpreters and translations does not involve extra expense for the persons concerned.

Recommendations by the Committee of Ministers:

1. amend the legal framework with a view to making it clear that the criminal, civil and administrative judicial authorities in the Autonomous Communities can conduct the proceedings in co-official languages at the request of one party;

2. continue to implement legal and step up practical measures aimed at ensuring that an adequate proportion of the judicial staff posted in the Autonomous Communities concerned by the application of Article 9 of the Charter has a working knowledge of the relevant languages;

Please refer to the general information, not specific to the Autonomous Community, provided with respect to Article 9 of the Charter, and with respect to Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Committee of Ministers, in the section of this report corresponding to Catalan in Catalonia.

Actions by the Autonomous Community:

Article 11 of the Balearic Islands Language Normalization Act states: “1. *In the territory of the Autonomous Community of the Balearic Islands, all citizens have the right to address the Justice Administration in the official language of their choice, and no kind of translation shall be required of them. Moreover, this choice must not result in a delay in the processing of their claims*” and that “2. *Regarding the language used, all actions, documents and writs, published or drafted in Catalan, are fully valid and effective before the courts and judges of the Balearic Islands*”. In addition, “*In all cases, the interested parties are entitled to be informed in the language of their choice*”.

According to data of the High Court of Justice of the Balearic Islands on compliance with the European Charter, the application of the provisions contained in Article 9 is the responsibility of the pertinent authorities, namely the judge or the court in charge of each case. Furthermore, they indicate that there is no record of citizen claims or complaints regarding specific difficulties in exercising these rights. In judicial proceedings only a minority of citizens and professionals use Catalan. Knowledge of the official native language of the territory is taken into consideration in court

appointments. In the event that a judge does not know Catalan, the law provides for the use of an interpreter, a solution only used on an exceptional basis. Of the 138 judges currently practising in the Balearic Islands, two write their judgments in Catalan. The provision of courses to the personnel of the Balearic Islands' justice system is the responsibility of the corresponding Administration.

Furthermore, although the Autonomous Community of the Balearic Islands does not have the legislative power to provide resources for the Justice Administration, the corresponding personnel have access to the courses organised by the Balearic School of Public Administration (EBAP) to obtain official certification in Catalan language proficiency.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.

The *supplement in Catalan of the Official State Gazette (BOE)* is published under the Convention of 21 April 1998, pursuant to Royal Decree 489/1997, of 14 April, which provides for the publication of laws in the co-official languages.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

Paragraph 1

Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:

- a) i) to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages; or***
- b) to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;***
- c) to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.***

In the national framework, the training activities to increase and improve the use of Catalan in public services in the Balearic Islands have been constant. In addition to training actions in co-official languages being carried out in different sectors, Spain's General State Administration (AGE) implements its training policy for its civil service staff through the National Institute of Public Administration (INAP), a self-governing body attached to the Ministry of the Treasury and of the Civil Service. INAP has been collaborating for years in promoting the learning of co-official languages at different levels by the AGE's civil service staff posted in the Autonomous Communities that have another official language in addition to Castilian, including the staff of the State Security Forces.

Budget allocated by INAP for the teaching of co-official languages in the Balearic Islands:

2013	2014	2015	2016	2017 (forecast)
€5,450	€5,130	€4,329	€1,122	€6,000

The courses are imparted in collaboration with the Balearic School of Public Administration (EBAP).

The courses offered include the following levels:

- A2: Face-to-face format
- B1: Face-to-face format
- B2: Face-to-face format
- C1: Face-to-face and online formats
- C2: Blended format
- Administrative language: Online format.

According to the information provided by the Government Delegation in the Balearic Islands, the teaching of Catalan to the AGE's civil service staff posted in the Balearic Islands has been maintained at the same levels reached in the previous period, with knowledge of Catalan being generally considered an advantage when applying for such posts. This is always the case for jobs that involve dealing with the public.

It can also be affirmed that the use of Catalan in the public services provided by AGE entities in the Balearic Islands has remained at high levels, as in the prior period. The high percentage of bilingual documents already used in all the AGE entities in this Autonomous Community has been maintained. The following entities serve as examples in this regard:

The National Social Security Institute, the Social Marine Institute, and the Social Security General Treasury offer Catalan translations of all their pamphlets, templates and forms, which are accessible through their websites.

The Government Delegation and the Island Directorates generally offer bilingual forms through their websites. In addition, almost all signs and signage in buildings are bilingual.

The Civil Guard is introducing numerous bilingual elements in its activities: forms, complaints and suggestions books, requests for firearms licences and cards, messages used by telephone switchboards, signs and signage in offices, etc.

Almost 100% of the forms and pamphlets, as well as the signage, posters and informative signs of bodies such as "Ports de Balears" (State Ports) and the island airports (AENA) are bilingual.

In view of the above, and given that during the current period there have been no complaints of any kind regarding the impossibility of communicating or taking action in Catalan, it is considered that the presence of Catalan in the public services provided by the AGE in the Balearic Islands is currently adequately guaranteed.

In the legislative sphere, the benchmark framework is established, as noted previously, by Act 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of the Public Administrations, Article 15 of which sets forth the following in relation to the languages used in administrative procedures:

1. *The language of procedures carried out by the General State Administration shall be Castilian. Notwithstanding the foregoing, those interested parties addressing the General State Administration bodies that are located in the territory of an Autonomous Community may also use the co-official language thereof.*

In this case, the procedure shall be carried out in the interested party's language of choice. If several interested parties are participating in the procedure, and there is a discrepancy regarding the language used, the procedure shall be carried out in Castilian. However, any documents or statements required by the interested parties shall be issued in their language of choice.

2. *In procedures carried out by the Administrations of the Autonomous Communities and of the Local Entities, the use of the language shall be in accordance with the provisions of the corresponding Autonomous Community's legislation.*

3. *The Public Administration carrying out the procedure must translate into Castilian any documents, dossiers, or parts thereof that are to be effective outside the territory of the Autonomous Community, and any documents addressed to interested parties who request this explicitly. If they are to be effective in the territory of an Autonomous Community where that same language, other than Castilian, is co-official, they shall not need to be translated.*

The information in this section is expanded upon in the section of this Report concerning the AGE.

Paragraph 2.

In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:

a) the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;

The Government of the Balearic Islands habitually uses Catalan in all administrative actions, in accordance with its organic competencies and within the language framework established in the Autonomous Community.

Similarly, the Directorate-General for Language Policy, which had been eliminated in 2011, resumed its activities in August 2015 and in January 2016 had a budget of 2.8 million euros, representing 3.8% of the total budget allocated to the Department of Culture, Participation and Sport (75.2 million euros).

The Directorate-General for Language Policy exercises its competencies in the following spheres:

- Standardization of Catalan.
- Promotion and defence of citizens' language rights.
- Certification of proficiency in Catalan of adults not in formal education through the organization and management of tests and recognition of equivalent certificates.
- Recognition of compulsory secondary education and post-compulsory secondary education Catalan language studies as equivalent to official certifications of proficiency in Catalan.

The organization and functioning of the Mallorca Island Council is governed through its Organic Regulation (amended by the Resolutions adopted, respectively, at the plenary

sessions of the Council held on 8 March 2004, 28 July 2008, 13 October 2011 and 14 February 2013), Article 2 of which sets forth the following on the use of Catalan:

- 1. Catalan, as the native language of the island of Mallorca, is also the native language of this Council.*
- 2. Catalan and Castilian, as official languages of the Autonomous Community of the Balearic Islands, must be used by the Administration of the Mallorca Island Council, as regulated by Act 3/1986, of 29 April, on Language Normalization in the Balearic Islands, and pursuant to the Regulation governing the use of Catalan within the scope of authority of the Council.*

The Regulation governing the use of Catalan within the scope of authority of the Mallorca Island Council specifies how Catalan is used by the institution (in general, oral and administrative contexts, for institutional relations, relations with citizens, notices and publications, registers, human resources, collaboration with other institutions, promotion of the use and teaching of the language, and policy on aid and grants). It can be seen that Catalan is used on a regular basis in this institution, in compliance with the points ratified by the Spanish State on signing the European Charter.

In the case of the Menorca Island Council, the Presidency of the Council has assumed responsibility for language policy, acting on the conviction that it should be a cross-cutting concern throughout the institution to ensure that all the departments feel involved in promoting the use of Catalan in the different spheres of action and management of the Menorca Island Council

As a result of Act 1/2016, the Menorca Island Council began the procedures to approve a new regulation on language use in the Menorca Island Council; said regulation would be in accordance with the new situation and establish Catalan in its rightful place within this institution.

The Language Advisors Network of Menorca has also been revitalized in 2016. This network was created in 1996 to coordinate the language policies and standardization campaigns promoted by the different Administrations, to establish criteria for proofreading and writing, to prepare templates of administrative documents and materials for the dissemination of Catalan, and to address questions regarding terminology.

For its part, the Language Advisory Service of the Ibiza Island Council is a cross-cutting service of the entity, given that it assists the institution's various departments, correcting the spelling, syntax and grammar of the documents issued (internal communications, communication with third parties, advertising posters and signs, advertisements in the press or other media, etc., in addition to proofreading the documents comprising the content of the Island Council's website and the complete version of the annual report of all of the institution's departments). Moreover, it should be noted that the experts of the Language Advisory Service also manage the dossiers of the Department of Education, Culture and Heritage (music, theatre, research, art, teaching, etc.) and carry out other, related tasks, such as seeking economic or other types of aid available to the Council in educational, cultural and heritage matters.

It also provides an advisory service to private citizens and advertising companies, printing houses, retailers, restaurant owners, sign manufacturers, etc. to address linguistic queries and translate and proofread texts, provided that they are no longer than two pages. During 2014 the number of external consultations totalled 160, compared with 129 in 2013.

Since 6 February 2001 the Formentera Island Council has been subject to the Regulation concerning the use of Catalan. This legal provision implements Act 3/1986, of 29 April, on Language Normalization in the Balearic Islands.

The Formentera Island Council has a Language Advisory Service to which anyone can send linguistic enquiries or send brief texts for review; furthermore, the Language Advisory Service also translates restaurant and café menus. The Language Advisory Service also offers information on the Catalan courses available on the island, grants to fund commercial signage, and the future implementation of the Language Volunteer programme.

Additionally, the majority of the Balearic Islands' municipal councils carry out activities to promote the use of Catalan. For example, the Palma City Council carried out language normalization activities during the 2014-2016 period, including the agreement by its Governing Board of 16 December 2015 that, in the names of the municipal websites, the top-level domain should be "cat".

Similarly, on 15 June 2016 Palma City Council created the Technical Committee for Language Policy, chaired by the Director-General for Culture and formed by technical representatives of municipal areas, bodies, companies and foundations, to coordinate the application of the criteria of the municipal Regulation on language normalization, compile language normalization proposals for the different spheres of citizen life and propose measures to improve the style of municipal documentation.

Also listed are measures such as those taken by Maó City Council to promote Catalan during the 2014-2016 period, and the application of the Language Normalization Act and of the municipal language Regulation.

b) the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;

c) the publication by regional collectives of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;

As mentioned previously, every Department of the Government of the Balearic Islands—as well as certain regional bodies—has one or two linguistic advisors, who are engaged, where applicable, in proofreading and translating all types of texts. In total there are 18 employees responsible for guaranteeing the use and quality of Catalan both in the sphere of legal-administrative documentation and in that of other types of communications: websites, press releases, signage, comments on social networks (Facebook, Twitter...), etc. Moreover, the Government has a contract with the language services company Incyta, which post-edits machine-translated texts.

In the Public Administration of the Balearic Islands it has allowed for the majority of IT functions (word processors, spelling and grammar checking, etc.), as well as the document management system, to be configured in Catalan.

d) the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;

As previously mentioned, the Mallorca Island Council's Regulation on the use of Catalan includes stipulations regarding, inter alia, notices and publications.

In the case of the Menorca Island Council, the cross-cutting nature of the Language Advisory Service is also reflected in the assistance with and review of the documentation generated by the different departments of the Menorca Island Council to guarantee linguistic accuracy (minutes, press releases, rules, reports, regulations,

leaflets, pamphlets, etc.). This service is also open to the general public, albeit subject to a number of limitations.

Paragraph 3

With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:

a) to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service;

b) to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages;

Mention should be made in this regard of the amendment introduced through Act 1/2016, of 3 February, of Act 3/1986, of 29 April, on Language Normalization in the Balearic Islands, whereby the following provisions were reworded:

Article 1.2a: the progressive and normal use of Catalan in the official and administrative sphere is reinstated as the purpose of the Act.

Article 6.1: Catalan is to again be considered the language of the Public Administrations of the Balearic Islands.

Article 8.2: Catalan is reinstated as the default language for copies and certificates.

Article 9: the obligation to regulate the use of Catalan in the scope of authority of the Government of the Balearic Islands, the Island Councils and the municipal councils is reinstated.

Article 14: Catalan is reinstated as the only official language for place names, and the Government and the Island Councils are declared competent to decide the official names.

Article 16.1: the provision on the promotion of measures to progressively train the personnel of the Public Administrations is reinstated.

Article 34: the regulation on the use of Catalan in the administrative functions and activities of the Government, the Island Councils and municipal councils, and the obligation to include express reference to knowledge of Catalan in the rules governing calls to fill vacancies in the civil service, are reinstated.

Act 1/2016, of 3 February, also amends, through its sole additional provision, Act 3/2003, of 26 March, on the legal framework of the Administration of the Autonomous Community of the Balearic Islands, and reinstates the original content of Articles 43 and 44 of this rule, which govern the use of Catalan in administrative activities and in administrative proceedings.

Paragraph 4

With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:

a) translation or interpretation as may be required;

The provisions of the above-mentioned Balearic Islands Language Normalization Act, as amended in 2012, enable and require the fulfilment of this undertaking.

b) recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;

Act 4/2016, of 6 April, on Language Training Measures for the Recovery of the Use of Catalan in the Sphere of the Civil Service stipulates proficiency in Catalan as a requirement for holding a position of employment in the Administration.

Finally, an important role is played by the Balearic School of Public Administration (EBAP), under its statutes approved by Decree 31/2012, of 13 April, in providing training activities and personnel selection for public administrations in the Balearic Islands. EBAP trains officials of the General Administration of the Autonomous Community and of the Local Administration and personnel of the General State Administration posted to the Balearic Islands.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 1

The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:

a) to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission: i) to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages;

IB3, the regional TV channel of the Balearic Islands, broadcasts content in Catalan (the Balearic Island variety), Castilian and English 24 hours a day.

The Parliament of the Balearic Islands, in the plenary session held on 22 April 2014, approved the framework-Mandate for the Public Radio and Television Broadcaster of the Balearic Islands. This framework-Mandate is the legislative instrument set forth in Article 5 of the Act regarding the Public Radio and Television Broadcaster of the Balearic Islands, which stipulates the objectives to be reached by the public radio and television (audiovisual communication) service. Pursuant to Article 9 of the Mandate, the language model of the Public Radio and Television Broadcaster of the Balearic Islands, both in television and in radio, should reflect the variants of Catalan in the Balearic Islands. It must follow a model with which all of the Islands' Catalan speakers can identify and which at the same time acts as a cohesive element throughout the territory of the Balearic Islands.

Since July 2015, this Public Broadcaster has had a language service comprising four professionals with degrees in Catalan philology who review and oversee the texts and scripts read by IB3's radio and television professionals. In addition to this proofreading function, the professionals who provide the service carry out ongoing monitoring of the Catalan language skills of the personnel who work directly or indirectly on the scripts or in the presentation of the different programmes, and apply the corrective measures necessary to ensure the utmost precision.

The Balearic Islands Audiovisual Act 5/2013, of 1 October, was adopted in the context of existing legal provisions regarding audiovisual media in the Balearic Islands and complements this legal framework. This Act includes some points that specifically

address language issues in this area, granting users the right to audiovisual content that reflects the cultural and linguistic diversity of the Balearic Islands. Moreover, it provides for the mandatory promotion of knowledge and dissemination of the two official languages of the Balearic Islands, and establishes, as key aspects of institutional action, the strategic nature of the audiovisual sector as an instrument for promoting and disseminating native culture and language, as well as for the proper treatment of the two co-official languages of the Balearic Islands (Articles 6, 25 and 36).

b) i) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages;

As previously mentioned, the Public Radio and Television Broadcaster of the Balearic Islands includes IB3 Radio, the vehicular language of which is Catalan. All programmes are presented in this language.

Since 2016, and with the change in the radio channel's management, certain measures have been taken:

- The only programme that was broadcast in Castilian, *Paideia*, has been removed from the broadcasting schedule. Consequently all the content on the schedule is in Catalan.
- A language advisor has joined the radio channel.
- A project is currently under way to launch a programme that will focus exclusively on Catalan.

c) i) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or

The language percentage data of the content broadcast by IB3 Television are as follows:

2014: 74% in Catalan, 22% in Castilian and 4% in English.

2015: 73% in Catalan, 22% in Castilian and 5% in English.

2016: 94% in Catalan, 5% in Castilian and 1% in English.

d) to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;

Language percentages of the films broadcast:

2014: 100% in Castilian.

2015: 1% in Catalan and 99% in Castilian.

2016: 65% in Catalan and 35% in Castilian.

In addition to what has been indicated regarding the Public Radio and Television Broadcaster of the Balearic Islands, in December 2015 reception of the channels of the Catalan Audiovisual Media Corporation (CCMA) was recovered in the Balearic Islands thanks to statistical multiplexing, which was initially applied to 75% of MUX 26 (and included the broadcast signals of IB3 SD and HD, TV3 CAT, 3/24 and Super3/33). The remaining 25% was occupied by the private operator UNEDISA, which broadcast Canal 4. On 31 March the CCMA channels Super 3/33 and 3/24 ceased to be available on DTT. The Government of the Balearic Islands has made improvements to the statistical multiplexing system to enhance the quality of the reception of television

channels in Catalan. With the solution promoted by the Government of the Balearic Islands, the application of the statistical multiplexing system to 100% of the MUX 26 shall enable improvement of the global quality of all channels in Catalan, both public and private.

g) i) to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages;

During 2016, the Directorate-General for Language Policy managed four grant calls totalling 255,000 euros that were focused on the following: daily press, local and specialist press, activities to promote the use of Catalan, and best advertising campaign in Catalan:

Daily press

The objective of the 2016 grant call was to support the daily newspapers published in Catalan in the Balearic Islands in 2015, in order to help consolidate the communication space occupied by this language. The funded activity consisted of the production, during 2015, of a daily paper in Catalan published in print, online, or both.

<i>Applicant</i>	<i>Publication</i>	<i>Amount</i>
Edicions Periòdiques Ara Balears, SL	<i>Ara Balears</i>	€140,011.57
Asociación Ona Mediterrània	<i>Diari de Balears</i>	€39,988.43

Local and specialist press

The objective of the grant call was to support local and specialist press writing in Catalan in the Balearic Islands, in order to help consolidate the communication space occupied by this language. The funded activity consisted of the production, during 2015, of a local or specialist publication in Catalan available in print, online, or both.

There were 24 beneficiaries in total, 18 corresponding to local publications, and six to specialist publications.

h) ii) to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages.

In 2016 the Department of Culture, Participation and Sport of the Government of the Balearic Islands, through the Directorate-General for Language Policy, supported cinema in Catalan by publicizing the films being screened, especially during the Christmas season. This publicity campaign was particularly aimed at schools.

The film *Incerta glòria (Uncertain Glory)*, directed by Agustí Villaronga and produced by Isona Passola, received a grant from the Government of the Balearic Islands for its post-production stage. This is an adaptation of the novel of the same name by Joan Sales, which relates one man's struggle to uphold his ideals and principles in the context of the Spanish Civil War.

g) to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.

Since July 2015, for the purpose of guaranteeing the correct use of Catalan, in accordance with the criteria established by the University of the Balearic Islands as part

of the consultative and oversight duties assigned to it under the Statute of Autonomy, the Public Radio and Television Broadcaster of the Balearic Islands has had a language service formed by four professionals with university degrees in Catalan philology who review and oversee the texts and scripts read by IB3 Radio and Television professionals.

In addition to this proofreading function, the professionals that provide the service carry out ongoing monitoring of the Catalan language skills of the personnel who work directly or indirectly on the scripts or in the presentation of the different programmes, and apply the corrective measures necessary to ensure the utmost precision.

In the case of the Mallorca Island Council, pursuant to the Regulation governing the use of Catalan, Article 29 of which provides that “*the Mallorca Island Council must adopt the appropriate measures using the necessary resources, to promote language awareness among citizens and foster the use of Catalan in all spheres and activities of social life on the island*”, several courses providing specific training for communication professionals were held during 2016, some of which were given in collaboration with the Journalists Syndicate of the Balearic Islands. These courses focused on phonetics and elocution, journalistic writing, vocal techniques and improving phonetics and diction in Catalan, etc.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 1

With regard to cultural activities and facilities—especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technologies—the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:

a) to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;

As mentioned previously, in 2016, the Department of Culture, Participation and Sport of the Government of the Balearic Islands, through the Directorate-General for Language Policy, supported cinema in Catalan by publicizing the films being screened, especially during the Christmas season. This publicity campaign was particularly aimed at schools.

The film *Incerta glòria* (Uncertain Glory), directed by Agustí Villaronga and produced by Isona Passola, received a grant from the Government of the Balearic Islands for its post-production stage.

Moreover, within the structure of the Government of the Balearic Islands, the Publications Area of the Balearic Studies Institute (ILLENC) is responsible for publishing the *Estudis Baleàrics* [Balearic Studies] journal.

For its part, the activities undertaken by the Mallorca Island Council in this area included the reinstatement in 2016 of the Mallorca Prizes for Fiction and for Poetry in Catalan, which had been suspended since 2011 for economic reasons. Furthermore, there are plans to introduce a new essay-writing category in 2017. These are the most

highly remunerated awards for writing in Catalan, and in addition to the cash prize they include the publication and promotion of the award-winning work. The Mallorca Prize competition was held for the eighth time in 2016, receiving 51 original and unpublished entries (19 in the fiction category and 32 in the poetry category) written in Catalan and submitted using a pseudonym.

Also in relation to point a), it should be noted that a number of grants were offered in the 2014-2016 period to promote literary creation in Catalan. The most important of these are the *de minimis grants* for publishing and phonographic production in Catalan to increase the knowledge and social presence of the language, in addition to supporting the continuance of publishing and phonographic production in Mallorca's own language. Additionally, the amount allocated to these grants has increased steadily since 2014: in 2014 they totalled 75,000 euros; in 2015, the allocation was increased to 125,000 euros, and in 2016 it reached 200,000 euros (an amount of 300,000 euros was budgeted for these grants in 2017). The *de minimis* grants increase the knowledge and social presence of Catalan, in addition to giving impetus to Mallorca's publishing and phonographic industries. Other grants were awarded to promote Catalan during 2014-2016, specifically to the Foreign Press Association, to the Balearic Studies Institute, to the Antoni M. Alcover Public Institution, and to the Booksellers Guild.

As regards local literary publications, the Mallorca Island Council publishes several collections, all of them in Catalan and on topics related to Mallorca's own culture. The books published by the Council during 2014-2016 include the following: *Ofrena de versos a Santa Catalina Tomàs. Segles XVII-XXI* [Verses in praise of Saint Catalina Tomàs. 17th-21st centuries] by Rafel Bordoy; *L'espectacle* [The Show] by Joan Mas; *Gaspar Rul-lan*, by the Mallorca Island Council; *Pere Llobera Garau (1857-1941), president de la Diputació Provincial de Balears* [Pere Llobera Garau (1857-1941) President of the Provincial Council] by Mateu Cerdà, and *L'objecte sonor. 60 anys de grafisme musical a Mallorca*. [The Sound Object. 60 years of music graphics in Mallorca]. Furthermore, several catalogues of exhibitions organized by the Mallorca Island Council were published.

In the case of the Menorca Island Council, the language policy actions undertaken during the 2014-2016 period essentially reflected the maintenance of actions consolidated by previous policies. These include:

The prize for young adult fiction in Catalan

Events celebrating Ruiz i Pablo Year (2015), commemorating the 150th anniversary of his birth

Organization of the Book Fair in Catalan

Maintenance of the Borja Moll Prize and the Josep Vivó Prize

b) to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

c) to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

d) to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the

knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;

e) to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;

f) to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;

During the 2014-2016 period, the Directorate-General for Culture continued to promote a programme of didactic-cultural activities, of over 17 years' standing, entitled "Viu la cultura" [*Long Live Culture*]. This programme aims, using a didactic approach, to disseminate the region's culture among the educational community of the Balearic Islands. The programme activities are undertaken, inter alia, in the following areas:

- Promotion of reading, primarily in Catalan, but also in Castilian and in English.
- Promotion of theatre and dance, primarily in Catalan.
- Promotion of musical and popular cultural activities of the Balearic Islands.
- Promotion of eminent public figures in the field of Catalan language and culture.

In this way the programme also aims to provide a cultural offering of interest to educational centres, to incentivize and support the cultural industry of the Balearic Islands, and to contribute to the dissemination of our historical and cultural heritage, which includes the Catalan language.

During the 2013-2014 academic year, 34,684 students benefited from the "Viu la cultura" programme in the Balearic Islands. During the 2014-2015 academic year 86 activities were organized and 53,688 students were enrolled on the programme. During the 2015-2016 academic year, 66,574 students participated in the programme, which included 89 different activities.

During 2014-16 a large number of activities in Catalan were carried out at the centres under the aegis of the Directorate-General for Culture. The activities undertaken at these centres, and in particular at the public libraries of Palma (Can Sales) and Maó (Maó Public Library and Historical Archives), were carried out in the following contexts and spheres:

- Promotion of reading, through book clubs for adults and for children, which focused in particular on Catalan, without prejudice to users' preferences.
- Promotion of activities for children (small-scale performances, activities to encourage reading, workshops, story-telling, etc.), primarily in Catalan.
- Promotion of theatre through performances and dramatic readings in Catalan.
- Multicultural conferences and workshops.
- Guided school visits, always in Catalan as the habitual working language.
- Activities related to relevant events in the fields of culture or language, such as Ramon Llull Year.

Projects focused on the promotion and/or dissemination of Catalan language and culture included the following:

- *Euroregional Forum "Popular cultures in dialogue"*
- *Euroregional Forum "Heritage and Creation"*

h) if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.

Pursuant to Executive Decision 6191, of 25 March 2003, on scientific competence in the field of language policy, “*the Department of Catalan Philology and General Linguistics is the scientific body of the University of the Balearic Islands (UIB) concerned with the issues regarding the standardization of the Catalan language and with the advisory function that the Statute of Autonomy of the Balearic Islands and the Language Normalization Act grant to the University*” [indirect translation from the Catalan]. Moreover, the UIB carries out Catalan language assessments (Correction Area) and terminological assessments (Terminology Office and Onomastics Office).

The UIB undertakes activities in collaboration with a number of different institutions. These activities include presentations at the University of Alicante and at the University of Valencia of the language criteria for corporate texts for general dissemination (2014); the Vives Forum Seminar on language assessment and certification of 13 November 2014; participation in the II RELEX International Congress in Santiago de Compostela (5-7 October 2015) to discuss UIB’s activities in the field of language dissemination; the organization of the intensive course in Catalan language and culture for international students (known during previous years as the ERASMUS Intensive Language course - EILC) in the framework of the activities of the Language Policy Plan of the Vives University Network; participation in the Vives University Network’s Catalan certification project to offer certification in Catalan managed by the Network; participation in the Vives Forum’s training seminars for academic and research personnel teaching in a third language (2016); participation in the University Debating League, through the UIB’s Cultural Activities Service; and the sociolinguistic survey in the Balearic Islands, described previously, undertaken on the basis of the agreement between the UIB and the Catalan Government.

As mentioned previously, every Department of the Government of the Balearic Islands—as well as certain regional bodies—has one or two linguistic advisers, who are engaged, where applicable, in correcting and translating all types of texts. Moreover, the Government has a contract with the language services company Incyta, which post-edits machine-translated texts.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:

a) to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;

b) to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;

c) to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;

d) to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs

The general purpose of the 2016 grant call launched by the Directorate-General for Language Policy was to support the activities contributing to the dissemination and promotion of the social use of Catalan among the general public, including those born in the region as well as recent arrivals. Activities were focused on five areas: training aimed at specific sectors of the population, linguistic integration, leisure, awareness-raising campaigns, and publication of materials.

The call was intended to place particular emphasis on the sphere of leisure, of great importance in terms of natural and spontaneous language acquisition and of reinforcing the use of Catalan as a habitual language.

The total amount allocated to this grant call was 200,000 euros, and the grants were distributed among municipalities with fewer than 20,000 inhabitants, as well as non-profit bodies. In total, there were 19 beneficiaries, who obtained the grant for one or several projects.

Apart from offering grants, the Directorate-General for Language Policy worked with other institutions— primarily the Island Councils— to coordinate grant funding, seeking to avoid duplications and to provide the best possible coverage of language policy needs.

Award for the best advertising campaign in Catalan:

The 2016 grant call launched by the Directorate-General for Language Policy also offered an award for the best advertising campaign in Catalan in the Balearic Islands in 2016. The purpose of this award is to foster the habitual use of Catalan in the sphere of work, products, labelling, advertising and corporate services and, at the same time, to further and to recognize the value of the role of private companies in promoting the presence of Catalan throughout the Balearic Islands.

A single prize of 10,000 euros was established for the advertising campaign that obtained the highest score in accordance with the criteria established in the terms and conditions of the grant call.

In 2016, the Menorca Island Council reinstated the grant call open to the island's businesses, companies, tourist establishments and sports clubs, to promote the use of Catalan in the signage, websites and all other texts produced by such entities (restaurant menus, catalogues, receipts).

Similarly, the Ibiza and Formentera Island Council has held grant calls for the promotion of the use of Catalan in the commerce, hospitality, industry and service sectors.

Paragraph 2

With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:

a) to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other

financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;

b) in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;

On 13 October 2016 the Governing Board of Palma City Council approved the Instruction regarding socially, environmentally and linguistically responsible public procurement. As its name implies, this Instruction includes clauses to ensure that Catalan is the standard language used in the works, services and supplies procured by the city council.

c) to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;

The Department of Health affirms that as regards the regulatory implementation of Act 4/2016, of 6 April, on language training measures for the recovery of the use of Catalan in the field of the civil service, the Health Service plans to issue a decree through which to implement the Act immediately, following completion of the necessary legal formalities, given that negotiations among the parties involved have already been concluded.

In the case of the Mallorca Island Council, which is responsible for social care facilities, welfare benefits for older people, and child protection and family services, the personnel who work in these areas have the necessary language proficiency to be able to attend to the citizens under their care in Catalan, including at the nursing and assisted living homes that are directly managed by the Council (Hogar de Ancianos, Residencia La Bonanova, Residencia Huialfàs de sa Pobla and Residencia asistida de Felanitx).

d) to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;

Article 30.2 of Act 7/2014, on the protection of consumers and users in the Balearic Islands, which shall be referred to again in the following paragraph, establishes the following as regards the language(s) to be used:

2. In the case of products whose labelling includes health and safety information, the information provided must be presented at least in the official language of the State.

e) to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.

As mentioned previously, the Parliament of the Balearic Islands, in the first extraordinary plenary session of 8 July 2014, approved Act 7/2014, on the protection of consumers and users in the Balearic Islands. Article 30 of this Act states the following:
Language used in information

1. All the consumer information referred to in this chapter must be provided in at least one of the two official languages of the Autonomous Community.

Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

The Parties undertake:

a) to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;

b) for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/ or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.

Seminar on Language and Society in Catalan-speaking Territories

Every year the Catalan Government's Directorate-General for Language Policy organizes the Seminar on Language and Society in Catalan-speaking Territories.

Llull year

In 2015 and 2016, activities and events involving a number of different institutions were organized in honour of the 700th anniversary of the death of Ramon Llull, Catalan culture's best-known writer.

The Llull Year website—www.anyllull.cat—was created for the purposes of these celebrations, and provides all pertinent information concerning the commemoration, general data on Llull and his work, links for those interested in learning more about the subject matter, as well as information on activities and publications.

To mark the Llull Year, a group of Catalan-speaking students in Great Britain made a cultural trip to Mallorca in April 2016. The Directorate-General for Language Policy organized the trip in collaboration with other bodies.

European networks

There are several networks that work to promote and protect the regional and minority languages of Europe.

One of these is the European Language Equality Network (ELEN), which was created in 2011 as a result of the work carried out by different EU Member State committees within the European Bureau for Lesser-Used Languages (EBLUL). The network's objective is to work on behalf of the 50 million European citizens that speak regional or minority languages (10% of the total population). It is currently working for a total of 44 regional, minority or endangered languages. These include major languages, such as Catalan and Euskera, as well as languages spoken by smaller populations of speakers, such as Sardinian, Breton or Cornish.

In addition, the European-wide Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity (NPLD) was created in 2007 to influence the language policies of the European Union as regards the recognition of regional and minority languages and the management of language diversity in Europe.

The Network encompasses certain EU State governments, as well as regional governments, cultural associations and bodies promoting linguistic plurality, and universities and research centres. The Government of the Balearic Islands is currently in the process of joining the Network.

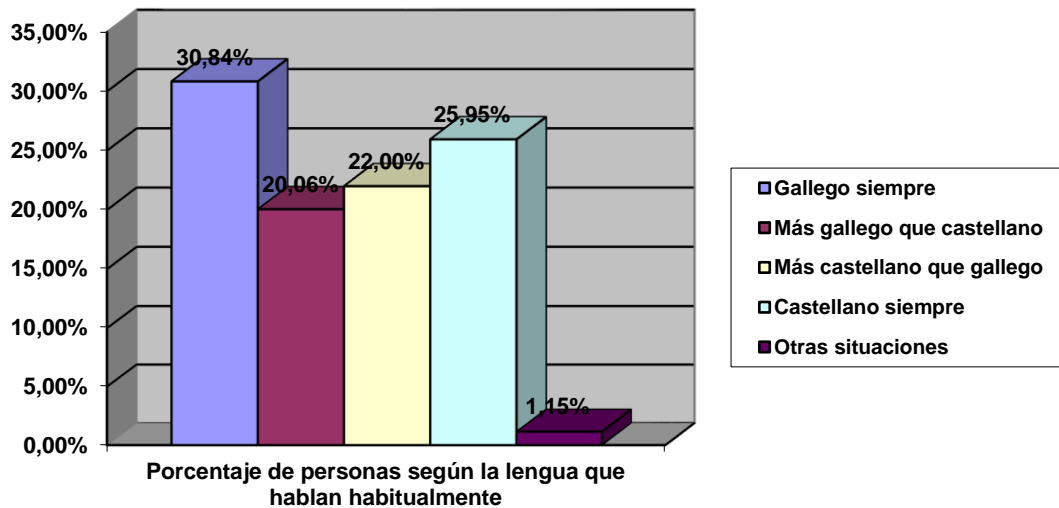
GALICIAN IN GALICIA

INTRODUCTION AND SOCIOLINGUISTIC DATA

Article 5 of Galicia's Statute of Autonomy, approved by Organic Law 1/1981, of 6 April, stipulates that Galician is Galicia's own language and, together with Castilian, is the co-official language of that territory.

In general terms it can be stated that there is a clear sociolinguistic cohesion in Galicia, as there are no geographical or social areas in which Galician is absent, although it is true that its presence is greater in rural and semi-urban areas than in entirely urban areas, and has a higher percentage of use among people over the age of 55 than among younger generations.

The most up-to-date sociolinguistic data available at the date of writing this Report are those provided by the Galician Institute of Statistics (IGE) in its 2013 Household Survey, specifically in the module on knowledge and use of Galician. This module analyses the extent of knowledge of Galician in its different forms and its use in different social settings among the population aged five or above (2,567,875 individuals). According to this study, there has been a decrease in the number of Galician-speakers, but this decline is primarily concentrated among those born before 1973, i.e. among those not taught in Galician. Furthermore, although there has been a slight decrease in intergenerational transmission, these same data indicate that the majority of parents speak Galician with their children and that, as asserted in the report "Language practices and attitudes among young people in Galicia" (2017), published by the Council for Galician Culture, among young people "professed mastery of Galician and confidence in its use are, in general, good, and barely differ from those expressed with regard to Castilian". Nevertheless, the most noteworthy general finding is that **three quarters of the population speak Galician to a greater or lesser extent**, which shows that Galician continues to hold strong.



Percentage of the population according to the language they usually speak:

Always Galician

More Galician than Castilian

More Castilian than Galician

Always Castilian

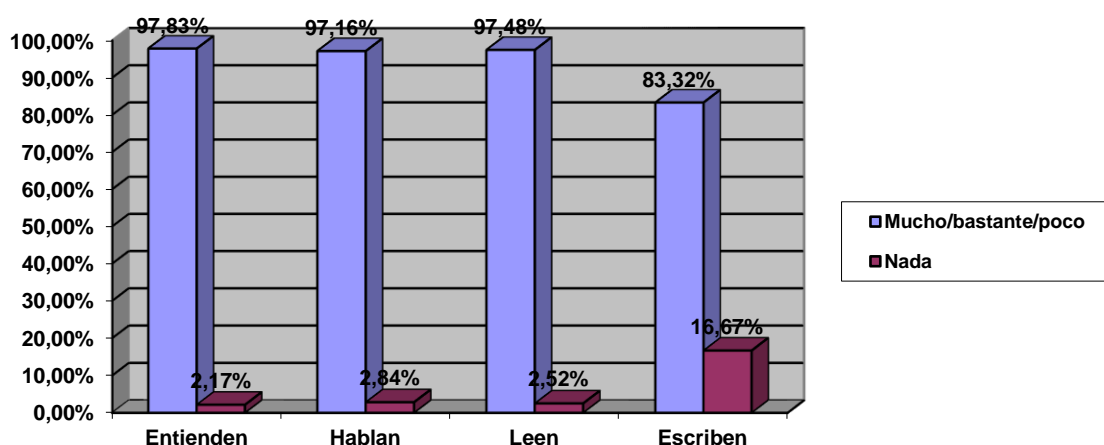
Other situations

On the basis of these data, it can be concluded that Galician-speakers **represent approximately 72.9% of the resident population** in Galicia aged 5 years or above.

Similarly, although there are no studies in this regard, it can be affirmed that approximately 50,000 people habitually speak Galician in the Galician-speaking areas of the neighbouring Autonomous Communities of Asturias and Castilla y León. In addition, the migrant Galician populations in other Spanish Autonomous Communities and cities (Madrid, Barcelona, the Basque Country and the Canary Islands), elsewhere in Europe (Portugal, France, Switzerland, Germany, the UK and the Netherlands) and in the Americas (Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Brazil, Venezuela, Cuba, Mexico and the United States) that resulted from migratory flows during the middle of the 20th century also represent important hubs of Galician speakers.

As regards knowledge of Galician in Galicia, the levels of proficiency are shown below, distinguishing between oral comprehension (*Understand*), oral proficiency (*Speak*), reading proficiency (*Read*) and written proficiency (*Write*).

Knowledge of Galician (%)



Understand
Speak
Read
Write

A lot / Quite a lot / Little
Not at all

Galician, as reflected in the statistics, is the co-official language of Spain with the highest percentage of habitual speakers in its territory. Due to the Latin origin it shares with Castilian, and to how it has evolved as a language, it can be easily understood by Castilian-speakers. This, combined with its 35-year long presence in the compulsory educational system, explains why 98% of the survey contestants stated that they understand Galician. This is an important factor, because it allows for co-existence and fluent conversation among monolingual active speakers of the two languages, a common situation in daily life in Galicia. Holding conversations in two languages is an established practice, a circumstance that is uncommon in other examples of contact

between languages. This is also due to the fact that immigrants still represent a low percentage of our population as compared with other communities in Spain.

It should be noted that the family continues to be the main forum for learning Galician. 82.17% of Galicians learned to speak Galician in this sphere, but among the under-30s school is the main forum for learning Galician; 86.52% of young people learned Galician at school, 67.56% from their families.

Moreover, as regards attitudes to language, according to several studies Galician is largely viewed positively. In this respect, the study *Language practices and attitudes among young people in Galicia* (2017), published by the Council for Galician Culture, stresses that Galician youth express a “**positive general attitude in favour of promoting Galician, and of recognizing it as a useful language**”. This position is observed particularly among young people who use Galician on a regular basis. In addition, the same study affirms that “attitudes antagonistic to the use of Galician do not constitute a majority narrative, nor even a coherent attitude”.

Finally, it should be stressed that there is a broad and diverse network of legally incorporated bodies and organizations that foster the protection and development of Galician in all social spheres, including the Galician Royal Academy (RAG) and the Instituto da Lingua Galega (Galician Language Institute), among others.

It should also be noted that the website of the Secretariat General for Language Policy (SXPL), under the Department of Culture, Education and University Planning of the Regional Government of Galicia, includes extensive information on the prevailing legislation regarding language use: <http://www.lingua.gal/a-secretaria-xeral/lexislacion>.

The SXPL designed operating programmes for the 2014-2016 period, all of which featured the activation of strategies involving agents of social co-responsibility in the social promotion of the Galician language. An example is the drafting and approval of the **2016-2020 Plan to Promote Galician in the economic sphere**. One of the fundamental goals of this plan is to focus on the social promotion of Galician in the economic and business sphere through the 10 areas into which the document is structured: hospitality, retail, food, ICT, construction and real estate, banking, advisory and intermediation, advertising agencies, labour, and cooperativism.

Along the same lines, it should be mentioned that the 2017-2020 Plan to Promote Galician among Young People is currently being drawn up (2017). This plan will address the need to promote and foster the use of Galician among young people, including those who already possess a certain level of proficiency in Galician and those who are new to the language.

The main legal provisions through which the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages is applied in Galicia are:

- Organic Law 1/1981, of 6 April, Statute of Autonomy of Galicia (declaring its official status).
- Act 3/1983 of 15 June, on Language Normalization.
- Act 30/1992 of 26 November, on the Legal System of the Public Administrations and Common Administrative Procedure.
- Act 5/1997, of 22 July, on the Local Administration of Galicia.
- Act 4/2006, of 30 June, on Transparency and Best Practices in the Public Administration of Galicia.

- Act 2/2012, of 28 December, on the Statute of Consumers and Users. Chapter VI. (Articles 45 and 46) and references throughout the text.
[http://www.xunta.es/dog/Publicados/2012/20120411/AnuncioC3B0-040412-14487_gl.html].
- Decree 79/2010, of 20 May, on Multilingualism in Non-University Education in Galicia.
- Decree 201/2011, of 13 October, regulating the Online Presence of the General State Administration and of the Public Sector of the Autonomous Community of Galicia
[http://www.xunta.es/dog/Publicados/2011/20111028/AnuncioC3C1-211011-7835_es.html].

In addition to these legal provisions are those which were approved during the reference period, which are mentioned and discussed more extensively in the corresponding section of this Report:

- Act 1/2014, of 24 March, on Utilizing the Portuguese Language and Ties with Portuguese speakers.
- Act 2/2015, of 29 April, on Galician public employment.
https://www.xunta.gal/dog/Publicados/2015/20150504/AnuncioC3B0-290415-0001_gl.pdf.
- Order of 10 February 2014 amending the Order of 16 July 2007, regulating the Official Certificates Accrediting Levels of Knowledge of Galician (Celga).
- Order of 10 February 2014 implementing Decree 79/2010, of 20 May, on Multilingualism in Non-University Education in Galicia, in relation to the Exemption from Galician as a Subject

PART III

Article 8 – Education

1. With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

- a) i) to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages;**
- b) i) to guarantee primary education in the regional or minority languages concerned;**
- c) i) to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;**
- d) i) to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages;**
- e) iii) if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i) and ii) cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or**

minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;

f) i) to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or

g) to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;

h) to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a) to g) accepted by the Party;

i) to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

2. With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

The educational legislation regarding the presence of Galician in education does not differ from that mentioned in the previous report except in relation to the implementation of Organic Law 8/2013, of 9 December, on Improving the Quality of Education (LOMCE), which required the introduction of a number of amendments that particularly affected non-university curricula, except for that of pre-school education.

The block of subjects selected by the Autonomous Community includes the curricular development of Galician language and literature, which is exclusively under the authority of the Autonomous Community of Galicia, and which is accorded a similar treatment to that of Castilian Language and Literature, a treatment that is set forth in Decree 79/2010, of 20 May, on Multilingualism in Non-University Education in Galicia.

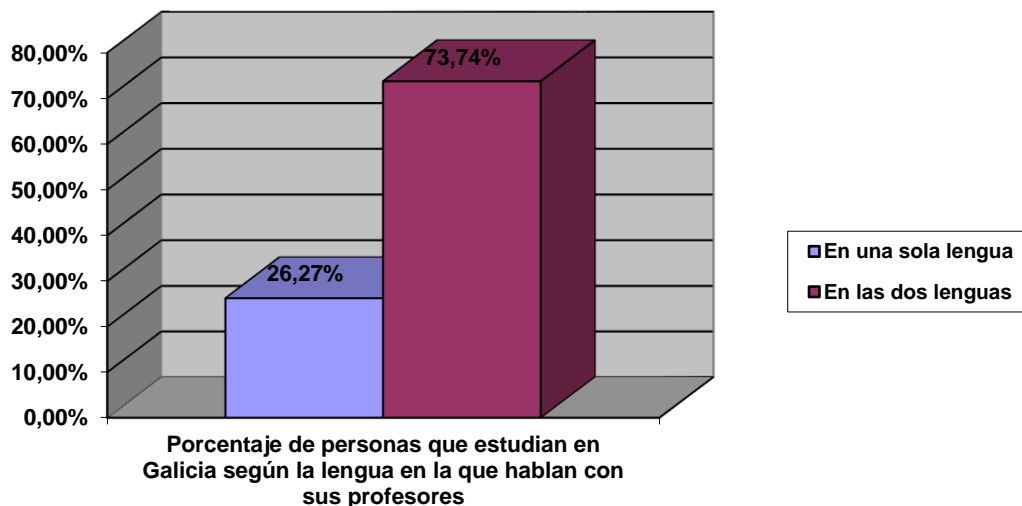
According to the new body of legislation, the development of the curricula for the different languages includes explicit reference to multilingualism, affirming that proficiency in each language interacts with and is enriched by knowledge of other languages, and contributes to the development of skills and capacities that are the basis of proficiency in linguistic communication. This, and the equally explicit reference to intercultural attitudes of respect for different forms of self-expression and behaviour, promotes the simultaneous development of multilingualism and interculturality. Thus, it is considered particularly vital that the learning of the different languages established in the curricula for both compulsory and non-compulsory secondary education is treated in an integrated manner, and that continuity is given to the process of promoting interest in other languages and cultures, and respect for the speakers of these languages.

The teaching of Galician is regulated, primarily, in Decree 79/2010, of 20 May, on Multilingualism in Non-University Education in Galicia and the subsequent revocation, in 2012, by the Galician High Court of Justice, of paragraphs 5.2. and 12.3. of said Decree, the first of which directly affects pre-school education.

The multilingual nature of teaching in Galicia is noteworthy. This is shown by data from the 2017 report by the Educational Inspection Service of the Department of Culture, Education, and University Planning. This study on the academic language employed in

primary education, compulsory secondary education and non-compulsory secondary education was based on the language data available through the education administration management software (XADE). This software enables the education authorities to verify, monitor and safeguard at all times the achievement of the intended balance in the use of the co-official languages at each school and in each classroom. Consequently, these data correspond to State schools and to private schools that use XADE (whether semi-private or not). The data by type of school and by educational stage are provided in the corresponding subsequent sections on the different educational stages.

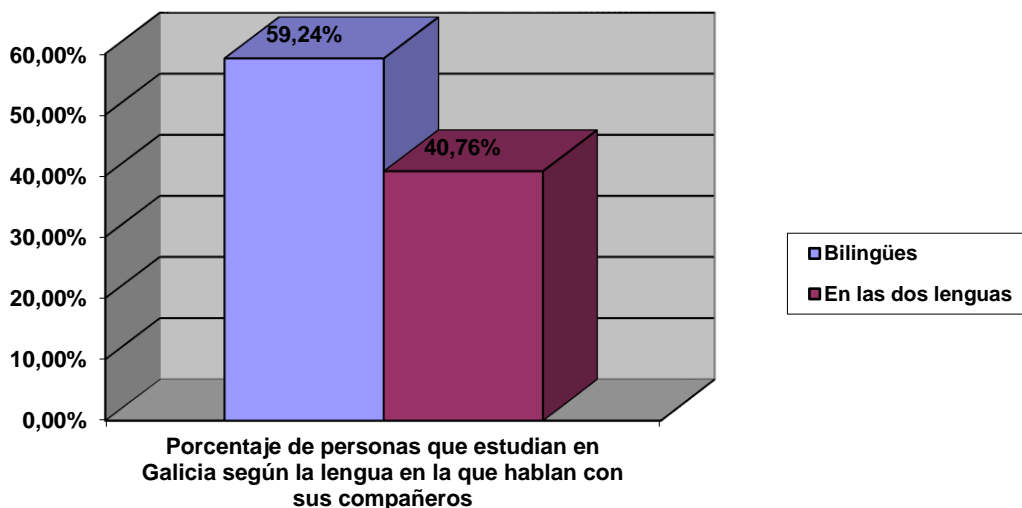
Also of relevance are the data on bilingual teacher-student relations offered by the 2013 Household Survey conducted by the IGE. In this regard, it can be seen that more and more teachers are speaking Galician, to a greater or lesser extent, with their students.



Percentage of people studying in Galician according to the language in which they speak to their teachers

In just one language
In both languages

It is also worth noting that the number of students who only speak Castilian with their classmates has decreased; in other words, an increasing number of students speak Galician, to a greater or lesser extent, with their classmates.



Percentage of people studying in Galician according to the language in which they speak to their classmates

In just one language
In both languages

The budget for career and interim civil servants teaching Galician language and literature during the academic year 2016-2017 amounted to €36,906,715.92.

Moreover, Article 15 of Decree 79/2010, of 20 May, on Multilingualism in Non-University Education in Galicia, requires each school to constitute a task force (EDLG) to promote the use of Galician in schools. This strategy complements the application of the bilingual model to achieve the objectives set for that model and for the educational system itself as regards language, which is none other than to produce bilingual citizens. The aforementioned Decree provides that the teams be coordinated by the territorial coordination offices that are located in the territorial headquarters of the education authorities of each province.

To support the work of the EDLG, the SXPL, through its central coordination office and the aforementioned territorial coordination offices, publishes offers of financial assistance for projects promoting the use of Galician at non-university educational centres under the Galician Ministry of Culture, Education and University Planning. Two such offers are published each year, one for public schools and another for private schools. The total budget for this action in the 2014-2016 period amounted to €1,000,000.

Some of the measures and activities aimed at promoting the Galician language and Galician literature related to the EDLG are as follows:

- Promotion of competitions and exhibitions:
 - Galician literature competition-exhibition. In honour of Galician Literature Day (held annually on 17 May), the SXPL organizes a competition to prepare an exhibition of informative posters on the work, era and sociolinguistic situation of the historical period in which the designated author lived, with a prize of €2,000 for each category of the competition.
 - Competition for writing a historical text (Falemos da nosa Historia). Award for a historical text written on the basis of previous research. Aimed at students in the 5th and 6th years of primary education and 1st and 2nd years of compulsory

secondary education at the schools of the Autonomous Community, the objective is to uncover the history of Galicia and its real or legendary protagonists through legends, myths, sayings, etc.

- Ouff Escola film competition. The territorial coordination office of the EDLG participates on the panel of judges for the Ouff Escola film awards held by the municipal council of Ourense and the SXPL, which is aimed at the public and private schools of Galicia. Since the first awards ceremony in 2010, it has been held annually.
- Provision of didactic, pedagogical and material resources through the SXPL's website and the section aimed at the EDLG. To facilitate the work of teachers in the sphere of language promotion, the territorial and central coordination offices of the EDLG manage the publication of materials and resources on the SXPL's website. A specific section of the website—<http://www.lingua.gal/>—includes a collection of resources for the different educational levels, grouped by section.
- Visits to centres and direct advice to coordinators and members of the EDLG.
- Technical support and telephone and online assistance to the EDLG and their members.
- Promotion of programmes and projects:
 - Language promotion innovation projects. The Directorate-General for Education, Vocational Training and Educational Innovation and the SXPL annually publish calls for **projects for language promotion innovation**. These calls are aimed at Galicia's State non-university educational centres, for the purpose of fostering innovative educational projects that promote Galician in diverse manners.
 - Project Dragal. Programme supported by the SXPL through the EDLG. This is a multimedia initiative to promote reading, creation and multidisciplinary research in Galician based on the book *Dragal I. A herdanza do dragón* (The Dragon's Inheritance) by the author Elena Gallego Abad. The initiative was launched in the academic year 2013-2014 and is aimed at students in non-compulsory secondary education (years 1 and 2). It is an innovative action bringing together the language promotion services, ICT, heritage, and YA reading in Galician.
- Organization of seminars, conferences and workshops:
 - Galician Literature Day Seminar. The Regional Training and Innovation Centre (CAFI) and the SXPL, through the coordinators of the EDLG, organize an annual training day for teachers, at the beginning of May, to provide resources to be used in the classroom and among the educational community to publicize the author celebrated on Galician Literature Day.
 - Obradoiros Falamos galego. Sabemos portugués: Language promotion activity aimed at young people in the 3rd and 4th years of compulsory secondary education and 1st and 2nd years of non-compulsory secondary education. This initiative comprised 15 face-to-face workshops bringing Portuguese closer to these students through their knowledge of Galician, held from 24 March 2015 to 22 April 2015 at schools in the Autonomous Community.
- Organization of events and celebrations:
 - Art festival for equality.

- Co-existence in pre-school education: activities involving Cholo and Nela.

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a) i) to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages.

The general criterion applicable to pre-school education is that teachers shall use the mother tongue that predominates among the pupils in their classroom, although they must also introduce the other co-official language to ensure that at the end of this stage of education their pupils' mastery of the two languages is similar.

The revocation of paragraph 5.2. of Decree 79/2010 means that the predominant language among pupils cannot be determined through automatic application of the data obtained from the survey answered by families about the pupils' mother tongues, but must be decided by the education authorities based on the stipulated parameters. Consequently, the Department of Culture and Education drew up and issued to all the schools teaching pre-school education to pupils aged three to six years an instruction setting forth a new procedure for determining the language that should predominate in the classroom during the second year of pre-school education.

Moreover, the Department of Culture, Education and University Planning implemented the programme *Nós tamén creamos!* The purpose of this programme is to promote the presence of Galician in pre-school and primary schools, irrespective of the predominant language among the students. This programme was held for the fifth time in 2016.

The budget assigned to this project in the reference period amounted to €90,000 (approximately €30,000 for each academic year).

In recent years, the Galician government has celebrated International Mother Language Day (established by UNESCO in 1999), holding events in different schools to raise awareness among families about the importance of passing on knowledge of the Galician language to future generations.

It should also be taken into account that all non-university educational centres, including pre-schools, have an EDLG that ensures that both school and cultural life (supplementary activities, celebrations, libraries, etc.) function in Galician, irrespective of the predominant language of the pupils or students.

b) i) to guarantee primary education in the regional or minority languages concerned.

The presence of Galician in education and, therefore, in primary-level education, is regulated by Decree 79/2010 on Multilingualism in Non-University Education in Galicia, and the subsequent revocation in 2012, by the Galician High Court of Justice, of paragraphs 5.2. and 12.3. of said regulation.

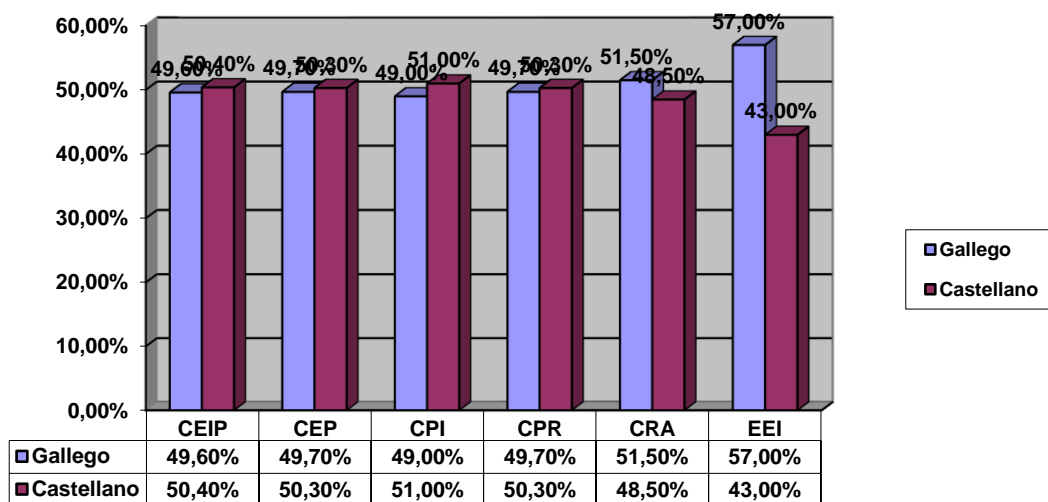
The predominant language of each group is first determined by the management team and included in the school's language plan, which is subsequently approved by the academic staff and, finally, by the School Council, before being sent to the Educational Inspection Service. Considering, too, the aforementioned ruling of the Galician High Court of Justice, students must use the language in which each area, subject or module is taught: *"when assessing the respective subjects, the assessment criteria referring to the acquisition of specific knowledge shall prevail"*. This regulation is based

on pedagogical criteria taken from the most accredited works on language learning, including those of Baker, Cummins and Ignasi Vila.

Decree 79/2010 stipulates that mathematics shall be taught in Castilian, and that Galician shall be used to teach the natural and social sciences, which include content from geography, history and the natural sciences. For the rest of the non-language subjects, the aim is to achieve a balance between Galician and Castilian in the distribution of teaching hours.

In the aforementioned report of the Educational Inspection Service of the Department of Culture, Education and University Planning of January 2017 on the academic language used in the classroom, the following data are offered regarding the use of Galician and Castilian in primary education, detailed by type of school:

Use of languages in primary education (%)



Galician
Castilian

CEIP: Combined pre-school and primary education centres
 CEP: Primary schools
 CPI: Combined State pre-school, primary and secondary education centres
 CPR: Subsidized private schools
 CRA: Combined pre-school and primary education centres in rural areas
 EEI: Pre-schools

Galician
Castilian

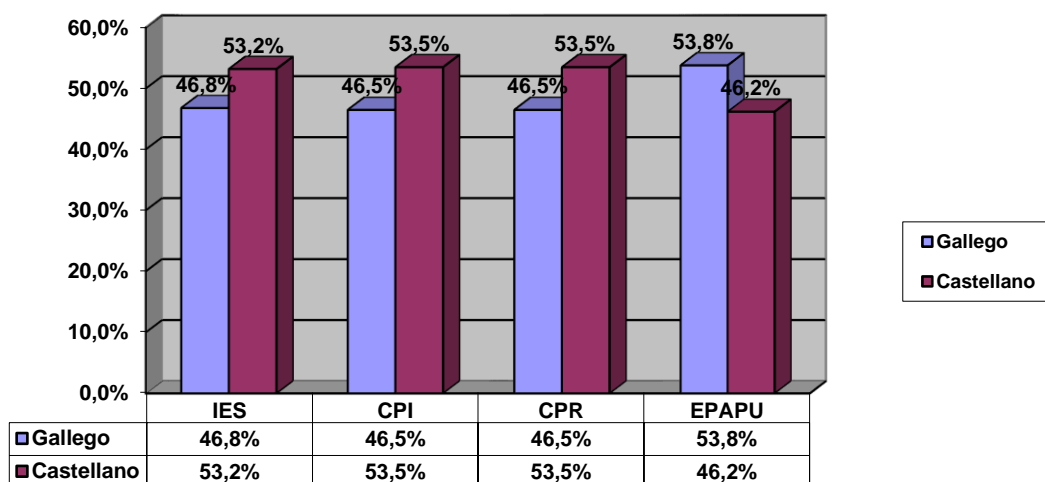
c)

The above-mentioned legislative changes with respect to primary education also affect secondary education, which is equally subject to Decree 79/2010, together with the changes required by the Galician High Court of Justice.

In compulsory secondary education, the following subjects must be taught in Galician: social sciences, geography, history, natural sciences, biology and geology. Mathematics, technology, physics and chemistry must be taught in Castilian. In the remaining subjects, a balance between the languages should be established. This objective has been amply achieved, according to the available data. In the

aforementioned report of the Educational Inspection Service of the Department of Culture, Education and University Planning of January 2017 on the academic language used in the classroom, the following data are offered regarding the use of Galician and Castilian in compulsory secondary education, detailed by type of centre:

Use of languages in compulsory secondary education (%)



Galician
Castilian

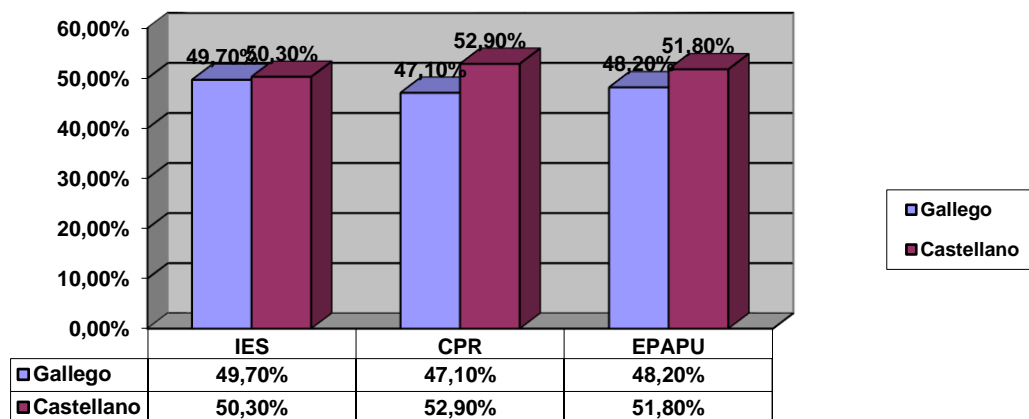
IES: State secondary schools
CPI: Combined State pre-school, primary and secondary education centres
CPR: Subsidized private schools
EPAPU: Adult learning centres

Galician
Castilian

At the level of non-compulsory secondary education, each school must stipulate in its own language plan the subjects to be taught in Galician and in Castilian, in order to establish a balanced used of the two languages.

In the aforementioned report of the Educational Inspection Service of the Department of Culture, Education and University Planning of January 2017 on the academic language used in the classroom, the following data are offered regarding the use of Galician and Castilian in non-compulsory secondary education, detailed by type of school:

Use of languages in post-compulsory secondary education (%)



Galician
Castilian

IES: State secondary schools
CPR: Subsidized private schools
EPAPU: Adult learning centres

Galician
Castilian

d) i) to make technical and vocational education available in the relevant regional or minority languages.

The legislative changes mentioned with respect to educational levels analysed above also affect professional training, regulated by Decree 79/2010 with the changes introduced by the Galician High Court of Justice.

This Decree establishes a balanced distribution of teaching hours in the two co-official languages to ensure that students are proficient in both languages. This balance should be stipulated in the school's language plan, which must be presented to the Educational Inspection Service for monitoring. Moreover, in each technical training module the students must learn the specific vocabulary in both official languages.

It should be noted that among the grant calls aimed at publishers for the publication in Galician of curricular didactic resources for non-university studies, priority was given to the publication of didactic material for vocational training to increase the availability of such resources.

e) iii) if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects.

In Galicia there are three public universities (University of Santiago de Compostela, University of Coruña and University of Vigo), each of which has a Galician-language normalization service and departments for Galician teaching and research. In both cases, the structure is permanent, with specialized personnel. At the three universities

the language of use pursuant to university by-laws is Galician, but it is used more by non-academic personnel than by the academic staff. In broad terms it can be said that the use of Galician in both teaching and research could be improved upon and that there are even certain weaknesses in administrative and management documentation. The recovery and promotion of the use of Galician in teaching is considered the key objective to be pursued. The positive aspects to be highlighted are the high level of language proficiency among students and, above all, the awareness of the university community of the need to step up its efforts to promote the use of Galician.

The language normalization services of each of the universities are responsible, *inter alia*, for the following functions: promoting Galician; proofreading texts; providing language advisory services to the personnel of the different administrative units; answering queries and offering guidance on terminology; proofreading teaching materials, notes, articles, etc.; and providing training in Galician to the university community, etc. Additionally, the three normalization services have implemented programmes aimed at promoting the use of Galician in different university spheres.

To ensure the work is well-planned and coordinated, an Inter-University Committee on Language Policy was created, formed by representatives from the three Galician universities, as well as from the Regional Government of Galicia. In this way, the universities' commitment to Galician is conveyed to Galician society in general and to the university community in particular. Similarly, the work of the Committee has been focused on the need to combat preconceived ideas so that Galician can be used in a natural manner, facilitating its use both as a language of culture and as a language for teaching and research. This initiative has also entailed a concomitant saving in human and material resources and established the necessary coordination and connections between localities, spaces and services which the system occasionally duplicates or triplicates with similar initiatives that compete with each other instead of collaborating to achieve the same objectives.

Collaboration agreements are arranged annually with each of the three Galician universities to carry out a programme of actions focused on language normalization, promotion and research in the university sphere. Actions are implemented to teach Galician to the academic staff, the administrative personnel and students, as well as to promote the language by preparing scientific-didactic classroom material in Galician, to organize competitions, to translate research papers into Galician and to prepare normalization materials.

At the same time, as a result of the research activities carried out under these collaboration agreements, we have substantial and essential databases which serve as terminology databases for the legislative texts published by the different institutions, as well as to meet the needs of Galician society as a whole and to be consulted and used by researchers and by the public in general.

The financial contribution of the SXPL through agreements and contracts signed with the three Galician universities, for training and research in and promotion of Galician, amounted, in the reference period, to €831,345.

The teaching of Galician at universities outside Galicia

There are well-established opportunities to study the Galician language and culture at universities in America, Asia and Europe. This has contributed greatly to the dissemination of Galician abroad, to linguistic research from varied perspectives and also to the status of the Galician language among its own speakers, as these individuals have witnessed the interest and recognition given to Galician beyond Galicia's administrative borders.

Galician studies can currently be taken at thirty-five universities in 15 countries in Europe and America. The majority of these universities have assistants working within

departments known as Galician Study Centres, where subjects relating to the Galician language are adapted to the needs of the students at each university (historical grammar, conversation classes, language and civilisation, literature, etc.). Alongside these educational programmes, there are a large number of additional activities linked to the Galician language and, generally speaking, to Galicia's heritage. Conferences on Galician language, literature and culture held at universities in Kiel, Milwaukee, Michigan, Edinburgh and Buenos Aires, etc., are of particular note.

The list of universities below (by country) details where Galician language, literature and culture are taught as part of the curriculum:

- Germany (4): Freie Universität Berlin, Christian-Albrechts-Universität zu Kiel, Universität Heidelberg and Universität Leipzig.
- Brazil (4): Universidade de São Paulo, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Universidade do Estado de Rio de Janeiro and Universidade Federal da Bahia.
- Croatia (1): Sveučilište u Zadru.
- Spain (9): Universitat d'Alacant, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Universitat de Barcelona, Universidad de Deusto, Universidad de Extremadura, Universidad de Granada, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Universidad de Salamanca and Euskal Herriko Unibertsitatea.
- USA (1): The City University of New York.
- Finland (1): Helsingin yliopisto (University of Helsinki).
- France (1): Université de Paris III – Sorbonne Nouvelle
- Hungary (1): Eötvös Loránd Universiti (ELTE).
- Italy (3): Università degli Studi di Padova, Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza" and Università degli studi di Perugia.
- Ireland (1): University College Cork
- Poland (2): Universidade Jaguelónica de Cracovia and Uniwersytet Warszawski.
- Portugal (3): Universidade do Algarve, Universidade do Minho and Universidade Nova de Lisboa
- United Kingdom (2): University of Wales and University of Oxford.
- Russia (1): St. Petersburg University
- Switzerland (1): Universität Zürich (newly created).

Other types of higher education. Grants for language study visits

Two points in relation to this topic should be mentioned:

- The annual summer courses held for foreigners via an agreement signed with the Royal Galician Academy (Real Academia Galega), Universidade da Coruña and Universidade de Santiago de Compostela. The main aim of the courses run by the aforementioned universities is to give students the opportunity to become familiar with the Galician language and Galicia's sociocultural context. In addition to theoretical and practical language classes, there are also lessons on Galician literature, history, geography, art, etc., and visits to the main sites of cultural and natural interest.
- Training grants for qualified foreigners to participate in research projects being undertaken at the Ramón Piñeiro Centre for Humanities Research.

- Signing of a partnership agreement with the Cervantes Institute to teach Galician courses and to disseminate Galician culture at its centres in Tokyo, Beijing, Berlin, New York and Paris.

f) i) Take steps to ensure that adult and continuing education classes are taught fully or mainly in the regional or minority languages.

The Department of Education for the regional government of Galicia (Consellería de Educación de la Xunta de Galicia) certifies language proficiency in Galician.

The **CELGA** (Certificate of Galician) is the system for certifying language proficiency adapted to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The system is structured around different language levels that reflect communication proficiency in different skill areas and group content together: language and communication; communicative competencies, language and system; understanding the code and language, culture and society and sociocultural content. Every year, the public authorities, via the General Secretariat for Language Policy (SXPL) at the regional government of Galicia, hold exams for each language level so that individuals can obtain this certificate of language proficiency.

	Registered	Candidates who sat exam
2014	2,593	1,952
2015	Not held	Not held
2016	2,016	1,554

To help individuals prepare for these exams (and also to keep their language skills up to date), the Secretariat organises Galician language courses on a yearly basis. Furthermore, in 2016 adaptations were made for the first time to accommodate people with disabilities.

From 2014 to 2016, the General Secretariat for Language Policy organised the following courses:

	No. of courses	Type of course	Targeted at	No. of students	Amount (€)
2014	77	CELGA	Adults and groups	2893	169,364
2015	25	CELGA	Adults and groups	561	110,000
2016	25	CELGA	Adults and groups	750	100,000

In terms of training, the main change was the option for online courses at the CELGA 1 level.

The budget allocated to courses, the holding of exams and the training of teachers and evaluators exceeded Euros 500,000 during the period in question.

It is important to note that the aforementioned adult education courses were taught at the official language schools (EOI) and via regulated adult education channels.

g) Take steps to ensure that the history and culture relating to the regional or minority language is taught;

One of the many objectives of current educational curricula (included in decree 105/2014, which sets out the curriculum for primary level education in Galicia; decree 86/2015 of 25 June, which sets out the curriculum for compulsory secondary education and the baccalaureate certificate in Galicia; and in the Order of 15 July 2015, which

sets out the list of subjects that can be chosen by regions for schools within the compulsory secondary education and baccalaureate stages and which regulates the curriculum and offer of studies) is *“to understand and value basic aspects of Galicia's linguistic, cultural, historic and artistic heritage, to be involved in preserving and improving these aspects and to respect linguistic and cultural diversity as a right of peoples and individuals, encouraging an interest and respect for the exercising of this right”*.

In pre-school education, this is done mainly via the subject area titled Knowledge of the environment and languages: communication and representation.

In primary education, this is particularly through the subjects Galician language and literature (which is allocated between three and four teaching hours, depending on the level) and social sciences (with content on the geography, history, heritage and institutions of Galicia), although Galician culture is also specifically taken into consideration in both art and music, and in physical education (with traditional games, sports and dances).

And at compulsory secondary level, Galician history and culture is chiefly taught within Galician language and literature and Geography and history. Both subjects are taught in all four years of compulsory secondary education with 3 hours allocated a week per subject (4 hours for Galician language in the 1st year of compulsory secondary education). Some content relating to Galician history and culture is included in first and second foreign language classes (comparing the cultural roots and traditions of the countries where the foreign language is spoken with Galicia), physical education classes (traditional Galician sports and games), Latin classes (as the basis for Galician), classical culture classes (significant aspects of Galicia's archaeological and artistic heritage inherited from Rome), art classes (understanding and assessing Galicia's artistic heritage) and in history of music and dance classes (the key musical elements from Galician heritage; significant Galician instruments, composers and pieces of music).

At the baccalaureate level, even though almost all subjects pay special attention to their relationship with the current Galician context, closer detail is paid to historical and cultural content within the humanities, social sciences and arts subjects. Similarly, 20th century and current Galician literature is included in Galician language and literature in the second year at baccalaureate level as one of the subjects chosen by the region. The aim is for Galician students to be able to broaden their cultural knowledge of the region they live in, to increase their understanding of the world, to critically analyse the current environment and therefore to improve their communication skills.

Every year, the education inspectorate ensures that the curricula at Galician schools meet the objectives and content set out in current legislation and that these programmes are adopted in the classroom.

h) Ensure the necessary initial and continuing training of teaching staff in order to apply paragraphs a) to g) accepted by the Party;

Initial training: In order to access civil service teaching posts outside of university education, individuals must be able to provide evidence of their proficiency in the Galician language (CELGA level 4 or higher, levels C1 and C2 as per the CEFR). If evidence cannot be provided, candidates must take a Galician language exam so as to ensure the linguistic ability of teachers.

Continuing training: As established in Decree 79/2010 of 20 May, in terms of multilingualism in non-university education in Galicia, “*individuals who are appointed to teach classes regulated by Act 2/2006 of 3 May on education shall undertake a specific training course during their placement stage on terminology, style, language specific to their area of expertise and sociolinguistic issues, which will enable them to correctly perform their role and duties in the Galician language*”. After each competitive examination sitting, the teacher training service (Servicio de Formación del Profesorado) organises a Galician course for teachers on placement via a specific online platform designed and supervised by the regional centre for training and innovation (Centro Autonómico de Formación e Innovación).

During the 2014 - 2016 period, the aforementioned teacher training service within the Department for Culture, Education and University Planning provided a wide range of continuing training courses for teachers, specifically aimed at improving linguistic ability in Galician and also professional expertise (teaching and methodology).

i) Create one or several bodies to monitor the measures adopted and the progress made to establish or develop the teaching of regional or minority languages and to draw up regular reports to be made public.

The education inspectorate is a body within the Department for Culture, Education and University Planning for the regional government of Galicia and its mission is to inspect all schools, services, programmes and activities within Galicia's education system, at both state and private schools and at all levels. The purpose of these inspections is to ensure compliance with education legislation and to help improve the education system and the quality of teaching, guaranteeing the rights of all those individuals who take part in teaching and learning processes and also ensuring that these individuals fulfil their obligations. The education inspectorate is responsible for checking and monitoring the legislation and other measures adopted in relation to learning and teaching the Galician language.

During the 2012 - 2013 academic year specific fields were included in the IT management programme used in schools, known as *Xade*, so that information relating to the use of Galician could be entered, making it possible to continuously and carefully monitor this field from both an academic and a sociolinguistic point of view.

Paragraph 2

In terms of education and with regards territories other than those in which regional or minority languages are traditionally spoken, the parties undertake to authorise, encourage and provide, if the number of speakers of a regional or minority language justifies it, teaching of the regional or minority language at the levels deemed appropriate.

Please refer here to the information provided for this paragraph of the Charter (**about the Cervantes Institute's activity**) in the relevant section of this report on Catalan in Catalonia.

The following activities carried out in this field on a regional level are worth mentioning:

- The passing of Act 8/2013 of 9 December to improve the quality of education (LOMCE) required a number of changes to the ongoing partnership framework that existed between the neighbouring regions of Galicia and Castilla y León. It is important to note that the Galician language was introduced as a subject chosen by the region to the curricula at compulsory secondary education and baccalaureate level in the state schools who joined the programme (Bierzo and Sanabria). In the 2015 - 2016 academic year, 944 students took part in the programme and in the 2016 - 2017 academic year there were 971 students. At the same time, subsidies were provided for activities to promote and encourage the Galician language within the curriculum, to be used as additional teaching tools. These activities include the annual Martín Sarmiento conference: education, culture and language, and a yearly educational and cultural trip to Galicia for students at these schools studying Galician language and literature (145 students in 2015 and 121 students in 2016). It is also important to mention that the rural school Colegio Rural Agrupado de Cubillos del Sil offers Galician language classes in the Bierzo area. In the 2017 - 2018 academic year, the Cubillos del Sil rural school will therefore join the other 18 primary and secondary schools and the official language school taking part in the programme to promote the Galician language in the Bierzo and Sanabria areas. Moreover, during the 2016 - 2017 academic year, a campaign was launched to encourage registration on the programme (which will be maintained in successive years) using different methods, such as leaflets, etc.

The programme was launched by the regional government of Galicia and the regional government of Castilla y León 15 years ago to promote the use and teaching of Galician in regions where the language is spoken outside Galicia. Other initiatives include the Martín Sarmiento conference held in Villafranca del Bierzo each year by the Martín Sarmiento Cultural Committee and the Department for Culture, Education and University Planning. This event brings together over one thousand primary and secondary school children who study Galician language and culture in the Bierzo and Sanabria areas.

- The regional government of Galicia works together with the Cañada Blanch Spanish School in London on an ongoing basis to ensure that the Galician language is offered there as a subject. Under similar circumstances to those in Castilla y León, when the legislation changed Galician language and literature was introduced as a subject chosen by the region at this London school. During the 2015 - 2016 academic year, 35 students studied Galician at the school and in the 2016 - 2017 academic year this figure rose to 51, showing a growing interest. In addition, every year the SXPL funds a cultural visit to Galicia for the students taking Galician language and literature classes at the Cañada Blanch School in order to promote the subject and the students' understanding of Galicia.
- For more than ten years now, the regional government of Galicia has been providing ongoing financial support and help to the Santiago Apóstol School in Buenos Aires, with the aim of ensuring that Galician language, literature and culture can be studied in this city where there are large numbers of Galician emigrants.

Article 9 – Judicial system

Paragraph 1

The Parties undertake, as regards the judicial districts where the number of individuals who live there and speak regional or minority languages justifies the following specific measures, according to the status of each of these languages and on condition that, in the judge's opinion, the exercising of the options offered in this paragraph does not obstruct the proper administration of justice:

a) in criminal proceedings:

i) to ensure that the courts, at the request of one of the Parties, conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii) to guarantee the accused the right to speak in their regional or minority language; and/or

iii) to ensure that requests and evidence, whether written or spoken, are not dismissed purely because they are drawn up in a regional or minority language; and/or

iv) to prepare, upon request, the relevant documents in criminal proceedings in the said regional or minority languages, using interpreters and translations if required, at no additional cost to the interested party;

b) in civil proceedings:

i) to ensure that the courts, at the request of one of the Parties, conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii) to allow, when one Party in a lawsuit has to appear in person before a court, that this individual may speak in their regional or minority language without incurring any additional costs; and/or

iii) to allow documents and evidence to be filed in regional or minority languages. Interpreters and translations may be used if required.

c) in proceedings before the relevant administrative courts:

i) to ensure that the courts, at the request of one of the Parties, conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii) to allow, when one Party in a lawsuit has to appear in person before a court, that this individual may speak in their regional or minority language without incurring any additional costs; and/or

iii) to allow the filing of documents and evidence in the regional or minority languages, using interpreters and translations if required;

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake:

a) to not reject the validity of legal acts established in a State purely because they are written in a regional or minority language,

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make available, in the regional or minority languages, the key national statutory texts and those that specifically refer to the people who speak these languages, unless these texts are otherwise available.

Recommendations from the ministerial committee:

<p><i>1. amend the legal framework so as to make it clear that criminal, civil and administrative judicial authorities in the regions may conduct proceedings in the co-official languages at the request of any of the parties;</i></p>
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2. continue to adopt the legal and practical measures required to ensure that an appropriate number of judicial staff in the regions where article 9 of the Charter is applicable are able to work using the relevant languages;

Refer here to the general information, not the information specific to the region, provided for article 9 of the Charter and for recommendations 1 and 2 from the ministerial committee, in the relevant section of this report on Catalan in Catalonia.

With regards the **regional regulatory framework**, article 7.1 of Act 3/1983 of 15 June on language normalization (Ley de normalización lingüística (LNL)) stipulates that in the region of Galicia, citizens may use either of the two official languages when dealing with the court system. This specific provision for Galicia is established in point 3, article 231 of the act on the judiciary (Ley Orgánica del Poder Judicial (LOPJ)). Following paragraph 2 of article 231 of the LOPJ, article 7.2 of the LNL states that “*judicial actions in Galicia shall be valid and shall take effect whichever official language is used. In any event, the interested party is entitled to be contacted or notified in the official language he or she chooses*”. Act 3/1983 transfers to the regional government of Galicia the task of gradually normalizing the use of Galician within the court system, in accordance with the relevant bodies.

The use of official languages in Galicia is guaranteed via the measures provided by the regional government of Galicia to the judicial bodies to ensure that all individuals present at court understand each other in the event that any one of the parties does not speak Galician, as provided for in article 231 of the LOPJ.

Access requirements, training and policies to stimulate use

The amendment to the LOPJ, via Act 19/2003 of 23 December, introduces article 450.4, which stipulates that in regions with an official language other than Spanish, proficiency in this language will be valued favourably when appointing court clerks. This continues on from the provision introduced in article 341 of the LOPJ with regards the appointing of court judges and other magistrates and the appointing of judges in the regions where there is more than one official language.

In terms of court clerks and civil servants working for the court system (forensic experts, case managers, court administrators and assistants), the reform undertaken by the aforementioned Act 19/2003 introduces the list of positions as a means of organising professional activities. This measure allows posts to be specifically designed and special requirements set. On a related note, article 530 of the LOPJ now stipulates that in order to access certain positions in regions that have their own official language, spoken and written proficiency in the official language may be required. The provision stipulates that this requirement must arise from the nature of the duties to be performed in these positions and it must be described as such in the job description. This same article establishes that in notifications of civil service transfer competitions, knowledge of the language will be considered an advantage when making appointments within the relevant regions.

While developing the LOPJ, the Spanish government passed Royal Decree 1451/2005 of 7 December, adopting the rules for admission, appointments and promotions for civil servants working within the court system. Article 48.1.b stipulates that “spoken and written proficiency in the official language of the regions” shall be considered an advantage when making appointments, both in transfer competitions and in merit-based competitions. According to the level of proficiency accredited, Galician shall be assessed with up to a maximum of 12 points (equivalent to six years seniority). The assessment criteria relating to profiles and language levels are included in the terms

and conditions of the competition notifications. Article 49.4 of this regulation (which repeats the same provision seen in the LOPJ) refers to language fluency as a requirement for accessing the specifically designed positions.

Article 25 of the Galician Statute of Autonomy, approved by Act 1/1981, establishes that proficiency in the language will be considered an advantage during competitions and public examinations to fill the positions of magistrate, judge, court clerk, prosecutor and all civil service posts within the court system. Article 26 of the Statute contains the same provision regarding notaries and property and commercial registrars.

Similarly, article 11.3 of Act 3/1983 on language normalization replicates the terms set out in the Statute of Autonomy. The general plan for normalizing the Galician language (El Plan General de Normalización de la Lengua Gallega (2004)) establishes the need to provide language training to all individuals working for the court system as a means of ensuring that citizens' language rights can be exercised.

In terms of the judicial service, the regulatory framework included in the previous report continues to be valid (article 341 of the LOPJ and articles 108, 109 and 114 of the regulations governing the General Council of the Judiciary (CGPJ), number 1/1995 on the judicial service, in the tenor given by the CGPL agreement of 25.02.1998).

The public prosecutor's statute (Estatuto del Ministerio Fiscal) does not yet fulfil the provisions of article 25 of the Galician Statute of Autonomy; proficiency in Galician is only considered an advantage when accessing the position of deputy prosecutor.

With regard to court clerks, paragraph eight of the introduction to this report and articles 109 1.b), 109.3 and 109.5 of the regulation governing court clerks (Reglamento Orgánico del Cuerpo de Secretarios Judiciales) approved by Royal Decree 1608/2005 of 30 December should be taken into consideration. This regulation allocates a score equivalent to up to three years' seniority, depending on the evidence of language level provided, when accessing court clerk positions in Galicia in transfer competitions and in merit-based competitions. Furthermore, the resolution of 16 May 2006 by the Directorate-General for Relations with the Court System, which sets out the scale and score criteria for notifications of job pool opportunities for deputy clerk positions, considers proficiency in Galician an advantage within this region (Official State Gazette (BOE) dated 02.06.2006).

As part of its responsibility to provide the personal, material and financial resources required for the running of the court system throughout the entire region, the regional government of Galicia must provide initial and continuing training to civil servants working within the court system. In Galicia, authority for the training of civil servants belongs to the Galician school of public administration (Escola Galega de Administración Pública (EGAP)), a government body attached to the Department for the Presidency, Public Administrations and Justice in Galicia (Consellería de Presidencia, Administraciones Públicas y Justicia). As a result of the partnership between the SXPL and the EGAP, 10 legal Galician courses were run during the 2014-2016 period, of which 6 were online.

It is also important to mention that the school for legal practice in Barcelona (Escuela de Prácticas Jurídicas de Barcelona) offers a Galician language course attended by an average of 20 students each year.

The Directorate-General for Justice at the regional government for Galicia is the body in charge of driving the use of Galician within the court system, in partnership with the SXPL. Both of these bodies, who report to the regional government of Galicia, work to provide the Galician court and jurisdictional system with the tools and resources

needed to better protect the language rights of citizens and also employees working within the Galician judiciary and to expand the use of Galician in the legal field.

- Measures to promote Galician in jurisdictional proceedings:
 - The regulation governing the legal department at the regional government for Galicia (Reglamento Orgánico de la Asesoría Jurídica), Decree 343/2003 of 11 July, and Act 4/2016 of 4 April on planning the legal consultancy services provided to the regional government of Galicia and its public sector, stipulate that special care shall be taken to give any legal advice before jurisdictional bodies based in Galicia in the Galician language.
 - The legal statute governing members of the judicial service, the prosecution service and judicial officers now considers a proficiency in Galician (and also in Galician civil law) an advantage when filling positions in this region; the regulation governing civil servants working within the court system goes a little further towards fulfilling the objective of language normalization.
 - A translation service is available to translate the rulings and documents issued by the judiciary bodies. These documents are translated by a team of language experts based at the offices of Galicia's high court of justice (in A Coruña), and at the offices of the provincial courts in Pontevedra, Lugo and Ourense. Other support teams also work at the registries in the Santiago de Compostela and Vigo courts, and another department coordinates the language teams based at the Directorate-General for Justice. The data shown below cover the three-year period from 2014 to 2016, according to the annual reports from these teams. (In addition to this work, the teams also provide interpreting services to the courts and they proofread documents written in Galician):

	TRANSLATIONS FROM SPANISH TO GALICIAN	TRANSLATIONS FROM GALICIAN TO SPANISH
2014	965	368
2015	955	449
2016	881	450

- Measures to promote legal documents written in Galician:
 - Based on the principle of co-official languages, all regional legal regulations are published in Galician. Similarly, legal texts published in Galician are distributed to allow greater access to the documents frequently used by employees at the court offices, thus promoting the progressive use of Galician within the court system. From 2014 to 2016 around 3,000 legal texts were distributed in a bilingual version to the judicial authorities, specifically 786 copies of the rules of civil procedure (Ley de enjuiciamiento civil), 715 copies of the rules of criminal procedure (Ley de enjuiciamiento criminal), 423 copies of the civil code (Código civil), and 300 copies of the penal code (Código penal). Subsequently, a further 650 copies of the penal code were issued to include the reform that entered into force on 1 July 2015. A large volume titled Act 39/2015 was also published and commented on by lawyers for the regional government of Galicia. It contained comments, notes and case-law relating to the law on common administrative procedure for public administrations (Ley del procedimiento administrativo común de las Administraciones públicas). The publication, dissemination and distribution of these works required an investment of Euros 27,355.64.
 - The language teams working within the court system continued to produce a catalogue of Spanish legislation in the Galician language to be used by the judicial authorities in Galicia. This work involved translating the regulations (or

parts thereof) used on a daily basis by the judicial authorities, as no Galician version was published in the Official State Gazette. Moreover, changes to the legislation were compiled and included in each regulatory text so that a consolidated version in Galician was available.

- Another new initiative is the **LEX.GAL project**: a justice portal in Galician and a consolidated database of Galician legislation (<http://www.lex.gal/portada>). The project is the result of a partnership between the Galician parliament, the regional government of Galicia, Amtega and Universidad de Santiago de Compostela. The aim was to create a regulatory, online language resource that Galician people can view free of charge, and a means of accessing various legal resources linked to the law in Galicia. The website will gradually add links to official publications (Official Gazette in Galicia (DOG)), provincial gazettes, the official state gazette (BOE), etc.) and to the websites of a variety of institutions that produce relevant legal information. The database contains all legislation passed by the Galician parliament, a large part of the decrees passed by the Galician government and a significant number of orders issued by government departments. The website will be continuously updated, as in addition to housing the database, it will also be a point of reference for readily available legal resources that are scattered about, meaning that they will be easily accessible from one location. The aim of this legal, language tool is to broaden the availability of products and services in Galician. By expanding the presence of Galician within the context of legal, economic and trade relations arising in the business sector, there will be a knock-on effect in the rest of the population, as this industry plays an important role in the running of modern society and has a significant impact on and reputation in today's world. The LEX.GAL project is the only tool of its kind in the regions with a co-official language.
- Measures to promote tools in the Galician language:
 - The regional government of Galicia provides these language resources and tools to the corporate network of courts and prosecutors in Galicia to help them carry out their work in Galician. The aforementioned intranet contains a section called "Foro de Lengua", where there are language resources on offer to encourage the use of Galician in the preparation of documents (dictionaries, spell-checkers, Galician to Spanish/Spanish to Galician machine translation tools); the language teams also advise the courts and tribunals on language-related matters and solve any queries either in person, on the phone or by email. They even produce **onomastics reports** required by the civil registries dealing with the "Galicianization" of names and surnames. Worthy of note is the book published by the Galician Royal Academy together with SXPL, titled *Os apelidos en galego. Orientacións para a súa normalización*, which aims to restore original surnames for use by civil registries and courts. Government staff can consult the surnames on the Intranet and the public can access them on the following website: www.lingua.gal.
 - Information is often included about Galician language courses organised by the Galician school for public administration (EGAP) in partnership with the Department for Culture, Education and University Planning via the SXPL to help offer language training to all those people who work for the court system (judges, magistrates, prosecutors, lawyers working for the judiciary, forensic experts, general civil servants working for the court system, non-established public employees working for the judiciary authorities in Galicia, lawyers working for the regional government of Galicia, notaries, property registrars, lawyers, court representatives and students at Galicia's legal practice schools, etc.) within the training areas already described and undertaken by the CGPJ.
 - In October 2016, the legal website was launched as a means of secure online communications between the court system, citizens and professionals, providing

a bilingual interface to guarantee the use of Galician in the performance of their roles.

- The Lexnet system was implemented as a safe way of exchanging information between parties working in the legal field, enabling online notifications to be sent and statements and lawsuits to be filed using digital signatures. This application allows legal documents to be exchanged online in equal terms in both Spanish and Galician, as online procedures can be carried out in either of the two languages.

The **Plan Senda 2014** was a plan that significantly modernised the court system and enabled closer relations with citizens. It represents a milestone in the use of Galician, gradually overcoming the inherent obstacles of previous management systems, such as Minerva. The Plan Senda 2014 meant the introduction of a genuine multi-language, document creation system and an authentic basis for managing legal procedures in the two official languages.

- Measures to promote Galician when civil servants access posts within the court system:
 - Civil servants working in the courts, tribunals and public prosecutor's offices in Galicia are part of the national body of civil servants. The regulations governing the admission, filling of positions and promotion of civil service employees working for the court system stipulates that speaking and writing skills in the official language of the regions shall be considered an advantage when filling positions, both in transfer competitions and in merit-based competitions.
 - Although magistrates, judges, public prosecutors and lawyers with authority in judicial matters are professional groups that are not transferred to the regions (managed by the Spanish Central Government), their legal statutes now include a knowledge of Galician (and also of Galician civil law) as an advantage when filling positions in this region.
- Signing of agreements. The aim is to have a wide and competitive range of language resources and products in Galician that enable the Galician language to be freely used on the most advanced ICT systems, thus boosting the presence of Galician in the very structure of legal relationships and causing a knock-on effect within the rest of the population, as this sector plays a key role in the running of modern society and has a significant impact on and reputation in today's world. Investments amounting to Euros 66,500 were allocated during the period in question. The abovementioned agreements were signed with the following institutions and entities:
 - The association of lawyers for the regional government of Galicia (comments on Act 39/2015 of 1 October on common administrative procedure for public administrations).
 - The Santiago de Compostela association of lawyers (legal forms).
 - The Galician parliament, Amtega and USC (justice portal in Galician and consolidated Galician legislation; Lex.gal project).

Article 10. Administration and public services

1. Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures

specified below, and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as reasonably possible:

- a) i) to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages.**
- b) to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;**
- c) to enable the administrative authorities to produce documents in a regional or minority language.**

Within the State framework, there has been a steady flow of training measures that increase and improve the use of Galician in Galicia's public services. Together with the training activities in co-official languages undertaken in different sectors, the General State Administration conducts training policy for its civil servants through the National Institute of Public Administration (INAP), an autonomous body attached to the Ministry of Finance and Civil Service. The INAP has collaborated for some years in promoting the learning and developing of co-official languages by the civil servants of the General State Administration assigned to those Autonomous Communities with another official language apart from Castilian. This has included personnel from the Spanish security forces. However, it should be noted that **the great majority of the civil servants of the General State Administration possess a knowledge of the Galician language**, the figure being around 96%. It is for this reason that, beyond general knowledge of Galician, recent years have seen the introduction of medium and upper-level courses in Galician administrative language. These are aimed at the personnel of the General State Administration pursuant to the Collaboration Agreement signed between the Galician Government and the INAP.

In all competitions for employment, special merit is given to accredited knowledge of the Galician language. For personnel assigned to public information and advice positions, and those that may be related to citizen's advice, oral and written skills in the two co-official languages are considered essential as this is a basic requisite for this type of work.

In addition, printed matter and forms are translated into Galician, together with the websites of Ministries and state public bodies. Signs and signage are also bilingual.

The citizen is free to choose the co-official language. The processing of procedures is undertaken both in Galician and Castilian under equal conditions.

Moreover, **Act 39/2015, of 1 October, on Normal Administrative Procedure for Public Administrations**, stipulates the following in Article 15 with regard to the languages used in administrative procedures:

1. The language of the procedures processed by the General State Administration shall be Castilian. Nevertheless, interested parties addressing organs of the General State Administration based in the territory of an Autonomous Community may also use the co-official language for that territory.

In this case, the procedure shall be processed in the language chosen by the interested party. If several interested parties concur in the procedure, and there is a discrepancy with regard to the language, the procedure shall be processed in Castilian, although the documents or testimonies required by the interested parties may be issued in the language chosen by them.

2. In the procedures processed by the Administrations of the Autonomous Communities and Local Entities, the use of the language shall be adapted to the provisions of the corresponding autonomous legislation.

3. *The issuing Public Administration shall translate into Castilian the documents, files or parts of them that should take effect outside the territory of the Autonomous Community and the documents addressed to the interested parties who expressly apply for them. If they produce their effects in an Autonomous Community where this same language different to Castilian is co-official, it shall not be necessary to translate them.*

All this information will be expanded upon in the section devoted to compliance by the General State Administration with the commitments of the Charter.

Paragraph 2.

In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:

- a) the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;***
- b) the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;***
- c) the publication by regional authorities of their official texts also in the regional or minority languages;***
- d) the publication by local authorities of their official texts also in the regional and minority languages;***
- e) the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in the debates in their assemblies without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;***
- f) the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in the debates in their assemblies without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;***
- g) the use or adoption and, where appropriate, the name in the official language(s), of the traditional and correct forms of place names in the regional or minority languages.***

The Statute of Galician Autonomy states in Article 5 that Galicia's native language is Galician. It also stipulates that Galician public authorities shall guarantee the normal and official use of both languages and encourage the use of Galician in all spheres of public, cultural and informative life. Therefore, in general and by legal mandate, all documents issued by Galician autonomous and local administrations shall have a Galician version. The same is generally true for printed matter and most of the external signage of administrative buildings; there are very few cases of signage that appears only in Castilian.

All the legal texts concerning Galicia that are published in the Official State Gazette (BOE) and in the Official Gazette of Galicia (DOG) appear in Galician and Castilian. All the regulations made by the Parliament of Galicia (Official Gazette of the Parliament of Galicia) (BOPG) and the Council of the Galician Government (DOG) are published in Galician and Castilian. However, it is the Galician version that circulates among citizens and the one that is habitually quoted, while the Castilian version has as its principal (and virtually sole) audience the State bodies outside Galicia. Both are on the web and the default version is Galician, both in the case of the BOPG and of the DOG.

Act 3/1983, of 15 June, on Language Normalization, stipulates in Article 3 that the Galician public authorities shall take the necessary measures to avoid anyone suffering discrimination on grounds of language; in Article 4.1, that Galician, as Galicia's native language, is an official language of the institutions of the Autonomous Community, of its Administration, of its Local Administration and of the Public Entities dependent on the Autonomous Community; in Article 6.1, that citizens have the right to use Galician,

both orally and in writing, in their interactions with the Public Administration within the territory of the Autonomous Community; in Article 6.2, that administrative acts in Galicia shall be valid and produce their effects irrespective of the official language used; in Article 6.3, that the public authorities of Galicia shall promote the normal use of the Galician language, both orally and in writing, in their interactions with citizens.

For its part, Act 2/2015, of 29 April, on Public Employment in Galicia, states in Article 51, with regard to language requirements:

- The Public Administrations included in the scope of application of this Act shall guarantee the constitutional and language rights of persons, both with regard to Galician, as Galicia's native and official language, and to Castilian, which is an official language in Galicia.
- Selection examinations for access to positions in the Public Administration included in the scope of application of this Act shall include a Galician examination. Exemption shall be made for those who provide evidence of their knowledge of the Galician language in accordance with the regulations in force.

In the other exercises contained in these selection examinations, applicants have the right to freely choose the official language of the Autonomous Community they wish to use. This also involves the right to receive instructions for the exercises in the same language, except in the case of exercises that must be taken in Galician for posts that require a specific knowledge of the language.

Article 7.1 of Act 5/1997, of 22 July, on **Local Administration** in Galicia specifies that Galician, as Galicia's native language, shall also be that of its Local Administration. It also states that notifications of sessions, agendas, motions, individual opinions, compromise proposals, decisions of reporting committees, minutes, notifications, appeals, public deeds, court appearances and all documents of a public or administrative nature written on behalf of local authorities shall be in the Galician language. The Act stipulates that the Galician Government shall further the process in which the Galician language is incorporated into the Local Administration, especially through training programmes in the Galician language for the civil servants of local authorities.

Moreover, the General Plan for Normalization of the Galician language, a text approved unanimously by the Parliament of Galicia in September 2004 and whose implementation commenced in 2006, sets the aim of ensuring that the Galician language is the habitual language in internal interactions in the Local Administration, in interactions between administrations and in interactions with citizens.

Act 3/1983, of 15 June, on Language Normalization, states in Article 10 that the place names of Galicia shall take Galician as their sole official form and that it is the Galician Government's responsibility to determine the official names of Galician localities.

Since 1999, there has been a **Language Assessment Department**, with the purpose of creating a single administrative unit to encompass a series of traditionally diverse activities, those upon which there was a need for the Autonomous Administration to act more actively and that involved broadening the Administration's impact on the linguistic development of Galicia. In essence, its general functions consist of providing a timely and immediate response to any query about the Galician language and advising public and private entities and the general public with regard to language.

Paragraph 3

With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which

regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:

a) to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of a service;

b) enable the speakers of regional or minority languages to submit applications and receive replies in these languages

Act 3/1983, on 15 July, on Language Normalization, specifies in Article 25 that the Galician Regional Government shall promote the normalization of the use of Galician in commercial, advertising, cultural, associative, sporting and other activities.

One of the most notable actions with regard to promotion of the use of Galician in the Public Administrations in the 2014-2016 period was the Language Revitalization Network, which was launched in October 2011. The Network is a voluntary association that is attached to the Department of Culture, Education and University Planning through the General Secretariat for Language Policy (SXPL). Its principal aims are to coordinate actions in the area of language revitalization and increase their effectiveness in the scope of the Local Administration.

This type of network is currently emerging as the most appropriate formula for addressing these aims. Without removing competences from any of the administrations involved, it guarantees an intervention both extensively and intensively and optimizes available resources by ensuring optimum levels of efficiency.

Since its creation and until February 2017, the Network has comprised 178 local entities, together with the Council of Galician Culture and the provincial councils of A Coruña, Pontevedra and Ourense, and has worked in a coordinated, collaborative and cooperative manner with the other entities forming part of it. In the 2014-2016 period, the Network promoted over 1,000 language revitalization activities aimed at promoting the use of the language in the different areas identified by the General Plan for Normalization of the Galician Language (2004). It placed special emphasis on its use by young people, the family, in free time and in leisure, in the economy, in ICT and in the field of lusophony as well as in the different celebrations and commemorations linked to Galician language and culture. The SXPL allocated 1,250,000 euros to its design, planning and implementation.

In annual terms, the actions in 2014 numbered 312 and in 2015, 172, in collaboration with the 170 entities that comprised the town councils, provincial councils, municipal associations and other institutions and bodies that participated in the project at the time. The total budget of over 600,000 euros was covered entirely by the Autonomous Administration. In 2016, 224 actions were allocated a budget of 250,000 euros for the 178 members participating until the end of the year. In all cases, in addition to the programming of local activities, materials were created in physical format for distribution or digital ones for dissemination through institutional websites (*Portal de la Lengua Gallega* www.lingua.gal and municipal ones).

In tandem, a series of grants have been set up for Galician local entities in order to promote the use of the Galician language. The purpose of these grants is to foster the provision of a language service either by creating one or by maintaining or reinforcing existing ones, or to promote the planning and development of programmes that revitalize the Galician language in municipalities or in groups of municipalities with populations of 3,000 or greater. To do so, the following forms of assistance were established:

- Creation of a language service for a municipal area. This utilized the method of grouping of municipalities, enabling those town councils with over 3,000 inhabitants that do not create or maintain this type of service to access the grant for language

revitalization programmes or activities, as the project's ultimate goal is to promote the use of the Galician language throughout the region without exceptions.

- Creation of a language service for a group of municipalities.
- Maintenance or reinforcement of the language service of a local entity (municipality or group of municipalities).
- Development of the language revitalization of a local entity that lacks a language service (municipality or group of municipalities).

The funding allocated to this line of assistance in the reference period is shown in the following table:

YEAR	FUNDING
2014	€ 602,668.00
2015	€ 420,000.00
2016	€ 520,000.00
Total period	€ 1,542,668.00

Paragraph 4

With a view to putting into effect the above provisions, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:

- a) Translation or interpretation as may be required;***
- b) Recruitment, and where necessary, the training of civil servants and other public officials required;***
- c) The acceptance, as far as possible, of the applications of public officials who know a regional or minority language so that they are assigned to the territory where this language is spoken.***

Act 3/1983, of 15 June, on Language Normalization, states in Article 11.2, that selection examinations for access to positions in the Autonomous and Local Administration shall consider the depth of knowledge of official languages, among other abilities. This shall be weighted for each professional level. Moreover, selection competitions shall include knowledge of the Galician language, weighted according to the classification group, with the aim of guaranteeing the knowledge of Galicia's native language by those selected to join its public service.

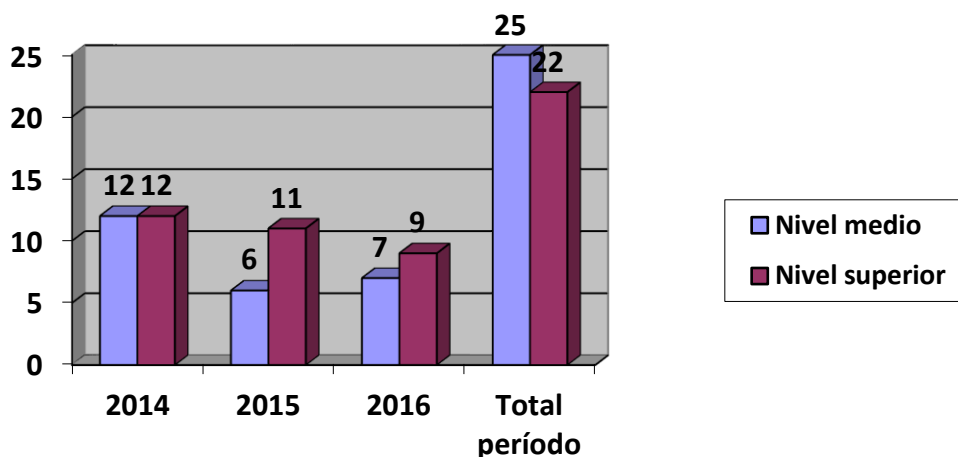
Also, in some professions, grades and/or categories pertaining to the health and social spheres or others that are identified, the Department competent in the area of public service may introduce modifications in the need to provide evidence of knowledge of the Galician language in order to provide public services to citizens adequately. Therefore, knowledge of the Galician language remains an obligatory requirement to access public employment and all those wishing to exercise public responsibilities must provide evidence of their knowledge of Galician, either by means of the corresponding certification or by taking a multiple-choice test.

In certain professional areas where it is very difficult to attract professionals, both from Galicia and beyond, the Government may choose to combine the search for competent employees with knowledge of the Galician language. This may be done by training the personnel working for the Galician Administration once they have taken up their jobs.

For its part, as has already been stated, Act 2/2015, of April 29, on Public Employment in Galicia, specifies in Article 51 the language requirements applicable in the selection processes for entry into public service.

The SXPL organizes annual courses for training in Galician administrative language at the medium and upper levels. Aimed at the civil servants of the different public administrations, these courses were developed in collaboration with the Galician School of Public Administration (EGAP), Official Language Schools, the INAP, provincial councils, town councils and the General Directorate of Justice. During the period 2014-2016, 930 public employees benefited from them.

Number of courses in administrative language (by level)



Furthermore, with regard to appointing those with intellectual disabilities, new criteria and examination models have been created for the accreditation of knowledge of the Galician language in selection competitions for the Autonomous Administration.

In the area of state competence, 96% of the personnel assigned to the Government Delegations and Sub-delegations in Galician territory claim to know the local language.

Article 11. The Media

Paragraph 1

The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, have competences, powers or a role to play in this area, respecting at the same time the principles of independence and autonomy of the media:

a) insofar as radio and television carry out a public service mission, to:

i) guarantee the creation of at least one radio station and television channel in the regional or minority languages;

b i) encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages;

c i) encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages;

e i) encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages;

f) ii) expand the existing measures with regard to financial assistance to audiovisual productions in regional or minority languages.

g) support the training of journalists and other personnel for the media that use the regional or minority languages.

Act 3/1983, of 15 June, on Language Normalization in Galicia, specifies that Galician is the normal language for radio and television broadcasters together with the other social communication media subject to the management or competence of the institutions of the Autonomous Community. The Act also stipulates that the Galician Government shall provide financial and material support to media that are not dependent on the Galician Government and that use Galician, as well as fostering production, dubbing, incorporation of subtitles and the exhibition of films and other audiovisual media in the Galician language.

In accordance with this, Act 9/1984, of July 11, establishes the creation of the Galician Radio-Television Company (CRTVG), which in Paragraph 1.1 of Article 1 is charged with "*the public service mission consistent with the promotion, dissemination and stimulation of the Galician language.*" There is, therefore, in Galicia, a public-law entity responsible for the direct management of public radio and television broadcasting services that is the competence of the Autonomous Community of Galicia.

Televisión de Galicia (TVG) broadcasts 24 hours a day on two digital terrestrial channels and two satellite channels for America and Europe, reaching almost 4 million people in north-western Spain (covering Galicia and the surrounding territories) and the north of Portugal. Programme schedules include news, concerts, cultural programmes, children's content, competitions, games, series, films, debates and sports. Over 60% of these programmes are produced with its own resources. Moreover, the three channels of Radio Galega provide news, music and special programming in the Galician language.

The CRTVG displays a commitment in the digital field. This is mainly channelled through the web portal www.crtvg.gal, which is already an essential platform for Galician content in the public media, but also through its profiles on social media. This helps to disseminate Galician television and radio content and provides new channels of communication and dialogue with society. On the web, CRTVG publishes a blog about Galician called *Saborea a lingua* (Savour the language), which aims to spread interest in the language and foster knowledge of it.

According to media type, the total number of broadcasting hours in the Galician language is as follows:

- TDT: 17,520 hours on the two DTT channels a year.
- Satellite: 17,520 hours on the two satellite channels for America and Europe a year.
- Radio Galega: 26,280 hours through three radio stations a year.
- Web portal web: www.crtvg.gal. In 2016, the website broadcast 130,000 hours of audio and video in Galician.

Most foreign films and series broadcast by TVG are fully dubbed into Galician. Audience ratings confirm that films dubbed into Galician are equally popular with viewers as the same films dubbed into Castilian and broadcast by other channels. The annual cost to the company of dubbing into Galician is over 3 million euros.

The prestige of a language is linked to the degree of quality it possesses when it is used in the mass media. This explains why the CRTVG is key in this field. In addition, the use of Galician as a continuity language in general-interest, cultural and news programmes, lends it cultural prestige; it familiarizes the segments of non-reading speakers or habitual users of the language with its medium, high and cultured registers. The CRTVG has become an element that structures the country's identity

and the social and political dynamics in its language. TVG catalyses and articulates the agenda in these areas, making Galicia visible as a community. It has therefore acquired such a relevance that today it is impossible to imagine a Galicia with its own personality and political autonomy without the face and voice that it provides.

Each year, the CRTVG participates and promotes a variety of projects and events in the field of Corporate Social Responsibility in support of its public service function, and specifically, language. These include giving backing for social and cultural organizations, loaning audiovisual materials from its archive to public and private initiatives, providing institutional support or direct participation in collaborative projects, such as the one undertaken with entities like the SXPL: the annual editions of the "*Nós tamén creamos*" (We too, create) audiovisual production competition for children.

The CRTVG has an advisory department with a team of nine linguists, who are responsible for maintaining optimum language quality in all radio, television and internet channels. They are also charged with preserving a largely defined language model in Galicia's public media, guaranteeing the coherence of content communication and improving the richness of expression.

CRTVG's budget during the reference period was as follows:

YEAR	SUM (IN EUROS)
2014	99,400,000
2015	100,700,000
2016	104,100,000

With regard to the audiovisual media that do not depend on the Galician Government, the regional slots broadcast by Televisión Española (almost 15 minutes daily from Monday to Friday) <http://www.rtve.es/alacarta/videos/telexornal-galicia/> and Radio Nacional de España <http://www.rtve.es/alacarta/audios/cronica-de-galicia/> (50 min daily from Monday to Friday) mostly use the Galician language. They receive the support of a team of linguists who ensure that the texts broadcast are of high quality.

A highly notable occurrence is the recent appearance of **local public and private media that use Galician as a normal or installation language**. These media enjoy a large audience in each of their districts and their coverage is increasingly important due to the local information they offer. Since 2015, the Radiofusión web portal (<http://www.radiofusion.eu/>) has provided the joint programming of 17 of these Galician municipal stations. EMUGA (the Association of Municipal Broadcasters in Galicia) creates a 24-hour programming grid that serves the 30 local radio stations operating in Galicia. It aims to complement local communication, which is the real *raison d'être* of this type of media. Radiofusión is also a loudspeaker, a channel for the messages and demands of social, cultural, sporting, trade union and business groups.

The Galician Government departments competent in the field of Media and Language Policy have collaborated for two decades in the implementation of public policies and specific measures aimed at empowering the Galician language in the private media by means of two lines of assistance. The first is a call for journalistic and broadcasting companies in order to assess the percentage of publications and information that standardize and disseminate the Galician language, as well as its identity and culture. The second is a series of grants aimed solely at companies that produce periodic publications written entirely in Galician, with the aim of fostering the growth of Galician language and culture in journalistic tasks.

For its part, the Department of Culture, Education and University Planning has signed **collaboration agreements** with the General Secretariat for Media, Agencia EFE, Axencia Galega de Noticias (AGN), Corporación Voz de Galicia SLU, Radio Voz, Faro de Vigo S.A., Editorial Compostela SA (*El Correo Gallego*), El Progreso SL, La Región SA, Editorial La Capital SL and La Opinión de La Coruña SL. Thanks to an agreement signed with the Galician Government, the region's highest circulation newspapers have incorporated automatic translators that enable content in Galician to be read in full.

The purpose of these agreements is to involve the sector's companies that operate in the Autonomous Community in the language revitalization process. The sum allocated to this initiative over the three years of the reference period was 3,078,720 euros.

The digital newspaper format is providing new opportunities for the Galician language, with the appearance of new titles that have opted from the outset for digital format as a means of expansion and that are now proliferating. These include Galicia Confidencial (<http://www.galiciainconfidencial.com/>), which attains over 6,000 hits daily, Noticieiro Galego (www.noticieirogalego.com) and Praza Pública (<http://praza.com/>), among many others.

As stated above, most of the media with a significant presence in paper format have a digital version in Galician due to the automatic translators on their websites, thanks to a collaboration agreement signed with the Galician Government. This is the case of La Voz de Galicia (<http://www.lavozdeg Galicia.es/?idioma=galego>), Faro de Vigo (<http://galego.farodevigo.es/>) and El Progreso (<http://elprogreso.galiciae.com/?lang=gl>).

Mention should be made of the communication agencies whose editorial staff provide daily information to a host of media and press offices, thereby performing strategic production work that facilitates the implementation of news in Galician in all other media. The SXPL has collaboration agreements that capitalize on the increased flow of information: Europa Press Comunicación S.A. (www.europapress.es), Agencia Efe, SA (www.efe.com) and Axencia Galega de Noticias (<http://www.axencia.com/>).

In 2013, the first “*Asociación de Medios en Galego*” (Media Association in Galician) (<http://vitaminasparaogalego.blogspot.com.es/>) was created. Its purpose is to promote, coordinate and reinforce the presence of the media whose output is entirely in Galician.

Article 12. Cultural activities and facilities

1. With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:

a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;

b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;

e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;

f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;

g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;

h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.

Article 25 of Act 3/1983 of 15 June on language normalization states that the Galician Government should promote the standardization of the use of Galician in commercial, advertising, cultural, social, sports and other activities.

The sphere of Galician society where the use of Galician is more deeply rooted is, undoubtedly, culture. Private and public cultural activities are mostly carried out in Galician throughout the entire process: creation, marketing, performance, etc.

The Galician Government, and, in particular, its Department of Culture, Education and University Planning, supports cultural expressions offered by different entities and institutions in Galicia that foster the use of the Galician language, and to this end it establishes the corresponding collaboration agreements, one-off grants, and regulated grant lines. This Department's Secretariat-General for Culture plays a key role in these efforts to foster Galician. The following agreements signed with associations and institutions to foster Galician culture and language are a few examples of these efforts:

- Foundations:

Agreements were signed with the Otero Pedrayo Foundation, the Rosalía de Castro Foundation, the Antonio Fraguas Foundation, the Vicente Risco Foundation, and the Manuel María Foundation, to collaborate on updating knowledge and memory of said authors, as well as on studying and disseminating their works through a programme of activities aimed at spreading knowledge of these cultural figures and their production and publications with intellectual rigour, and continuing with the compilation of their

works so that they may be consulted by researchers and scholars. The financial allocation for this during the reporting period was €127,000.

- Associations:

Agreements were signed with the Association of Writers in Galician, the Association of Civil Servants for Language Normalization, the Colectivo Xelmírez Cultural Association, the Museum of the Galician People Trust Association, the Coordinating Body of Language Normalization Workers, PEN Club Galicia, International Association of Galician Studies, ONCE (Spanish National Organization for the Blind), ANPE (Independent Trade Union of Public School Teachers), UGT (General Union of Workers Trade Union), CSI-F (Central Independent Civil Service Trade Union), CIG (Galician Inter-Trade-Union Confederation), CCOO (Workers' Commissions Trade Union), Enrique Peinador Forum Association, Provincial Association of Hospitality Industry Entrepreneurs of Santiago de Compostela, and Ferega-Ceca (Spanish Federation of Religious Schools in Galicia). The financial allocation for this in three yearly payments was €238,000.

- Institutions:

Agreements were signed with the Galician Culture Council to recover and disseminate scholarly texts, publish medieval texts, disseminate sociolinguistic resources, organize seminars, etc.; with the Pontevedra Provincial Council for the Filgueira Valverde; and with Amtega/Institute for Territorial Studies for work on macro-toponymy (georeferencing the approximately 10,000 place-names that appear in the Galician Government's Nomenclature; publishing a new, georeferenced Nomenclature of Galicia; disseminating the project among local, regional and national bodies) and on micro-toponymy (creating and publishing a collaborative software tool for collecting, georeferencing and disseminating Galician micro-toponymy; improving the functioning of the "place-name search engine"). Another two agreements were signed with Amtega: one, for producing the Online Galician Dictionary (www.digalego.com) and the Universal Galician Encyclopedia (www.equ.es), and the other for designing new information system and new functionalities for the management systems of the Galician Government's Department of the Presidency. The financial allocation for these agreements was €154,780. Also worth noting in this regard is the agreement signed with the Galician Royal Academy, aimed at covering the costs of its work on language normalization (study of Galician culture and, especially, the enhancement, defence and promotion of the Galician language). During the period of reference, the allocation to the Galician Royal Academy under this agreement was €1,584,000.

According to data provided by the Galician Institute of Statistics, there were 5,747 companies conducting activities in the culture industry in 2014 (the latest year for which data is available). And according to data from the same Institute, in 2014 the Galician Government's expenditure on culture was €62,218,000.

The Galician Agency for Cultural Industries (AGADIC) forms part of the Secretariat-General for Culture (SGC), and much of its extensive production is in Galician. AGADIC is directly responsible for the management of three important channels of theatrical and musical distribution, in collaboration with numerous local authorities and private entities throughout Galicia. The Galician Network of Theatres and Auditoriums, the Galician Network of Concert Halls, the Galician Network of Live Music, and the Cultural Routes circuit all ensure stability in the scheduling of shows and concerts with a Galician accent, while contributing to providing a broad-based, plural and open body of cultural activities, in terms both of its content and of its geographic decentralization. A good example of AGADIC's contribution to the promotion of the Galician language are its grants lines; the following are some of the grants lines offered in 2016:

- Grants for promoting and distributing Galician cinema in nationally and internationally renowned festivals held outside Galicia.
- Grants for developing audiovisual projects produced in Galicia.
- Grants for audiovisual sector festivals.

Promotion and dissemination of literature written in Galician

A good indicator in this regard is the publishing of books. According to the report *O libro e a edición en Galicia (2016)* [Books and publishing in Galicia, 2016] by the Galician Culture Council, 1,439 books in Galician language were assigned an ISBN in 2014, and 1,349 in 2015. This meant a considerable increase with regard to books in Galician in 2012 and 2013. This data shows that the percentage of publishing in Galician, with regard to total publishing in Spain, is slightly more than 2%, proving that significant institutional and business-sector efforts are being made in publishing. There were 130 publishing houses with activity and books assigned ISBN numbers in 2015. Therefore, Galicia's private publishing sector maintained its market share, and even increased it in terms of number of titles.

The subject-matters with the most books published in Galician are “teaching and education” and “literature”. This means that books published in Galician are aimed mainly at the youngest age groups.

As regards support for major projects by Galician publishers, grants were awarded to support the promotion, production and publication of books in Galician by leading publishers. An example of this is the project *Galician Literature-Portico of Galician Literature*, the first web portal on Galician literature in English (<http://www.galicianliterature.com/>).

Lastly, it is necessary to mention support for important literary competitions, noteworthy among which are the Coca Cola's Young Talents Competition Award for Short Stories in Galicia, the 5th Repsol Award for Short Narration, La Voz de Galicia's Micro-stories competition in Galician, and the García Barros novel writing competition, among others.

In the 2014-2016 period, the creation of resources involving new technologies is worth highlighting. The aim of these efforts is to enhance the prestige and appreciation of the Galician language by associating it with a sphere that is identified with usefulness, modernity and social communication. Some examples are the creation of language resources (online translators and dictionaries, etc.), and the definitive version of the COTOVIA voice synthesizer, an IT tool that makes it possible to convert a written text in Galician into an oral version; mobile phone apps; the translation into Galician of the interfaces of operating systems for fixed and mobile devices, and of social networks such as Tuenti, Facebook and Twitter; and the creation of the Department of Culture, Education and University Planning's own social web portal, called Redeiras.

Support for cultural activities for children and young people

Children and young people are among the main areas of attention for policies promoting the use of Galician. To this end, different programmes and activities were carried out in the 2014-2016 period:

- The programme Axóuxeres (rattles), for babies up to the age of 3 and their families, aimed to encourage incorporating the Galician language into communication with children. In 2015 it was carried out in 26 municipalities, with the participation of more than 3,000 children.

- **FalaRedes:** In 2012 and 2013, the Secretariat-General for Language Policy (SXPL) launched the FalaRedes language promotion programme with activities for children, in municipalities that belong to the Language Promotion Network. FalaRedes seeks to create spaces for use of and learning in Galicia involving the most up-to-date leisure and culture, to link the image of Galician to the positive values of modern society. The ultimate goal is to strengthen the use of Galician among speakers of the language, and offer language models and opportunities to interact in Galician to children and young people of Castilian-speaking origin. FalaRedes had different activities that were implemented, in its 6th edition, in 2017, in 19 municipalities.
- **The campaign *O Galego Campa*:** This is an initiative of the Departments of Social Policy and of Culture and Education, to promote the use of Galician in the Galician Government's summer camps. In its 7th edition, in 2017, activities were held at 15 facilities in Galicia's four provinces, with the participation of approximately 1,500 children and young people aged 9 to 17.

Cultural entities directly related with the Galician language

Some of the most representative are:

- The Ramón Piñeiro Centre for Research in the Humanities, created by Decree 25/1993, of 11 February, which reports directly to the Galician Government, and started operating in March 1994. Since then, it has published more than 150 books (all of them in Galician) and uploaded to the internet significant resources, such as, for example: an automatic Castilian-Galician translator; the above-mentioned COTOVIA text to speech converter, which synthesizes male and female voices with acceptable prosody; a database of Galician linguistic bibliography (BILEGA), which offers detailed information on everything published about the Galician language from the 16th century to 2005, and which allows complex searches; internet access to all of Galicia's medieval Latin documentation and all of Galician medieval poetry (CODOLGA); etc. The Centre is also compiling a Galician Phraseology Thesaurus.
- The Galician Language Institute (ILG) is a university linguistic research centre created in 1971 by the University of Santiago de Compostela, in order to promote the cultivation and standardization of Galician and to further synchronic and diachronic research in this respect.
- The Galician Royal Academy (RAG) is responsible for determining the Galician language standard and also makes the final decisions on questions of Galician terminology, through its agency Termigal, which has been working for 10 years under an agreement between RAG and the Galician Government. The Academy is Galicia's oldest institution—it was founded on 30 September 1906. Collaboration relations between the Secretariat-General for Language Policy and the Galician Royal Academy are very close, and in fact, the Galician Government gives the RAG €550,000 annually, an amount which is allocated to programmes such as the RAG Dictionary, the most recent, prolific and innovative lexicography project implemented to date by the Academy, in which the law has vested the authority to establish and approve the Galician lexicon.
- The Council for Galician Culture (CCG), in addition to its functions as an advisory body, conducts research in different fields of culture (language, communication, history, art, etc.) in thematic sections coordinated by respective committees. The CCG is an institution that was set forth in Galicia's Statute of Autonomy (Art. 32) and created by Act 8/1983, of 8 July. The CCG also hosts the Galician Centre for Sociolinguistic Documentation, whose main objective is to participate in the normalization of the Galician language, facilitating the exchange and dissemination of materials generated in this process and creating forums for debate and reflection about language planning in Galicia.

The development of translation and terminological research bodies

As stated previously in this report, since 1999 there has been a **Language Advisory Division**, attached to the Secretariat-General for Language Policy. The language advisory staff carries out some of the following tasks:

- Managing the tests aimed at accrediting Galician language proficiency, and, as the case may be, proficiency in Galician for special purposes.
- Providing advice on language and on the production and offer of technological resources to promote the use of the Galician language.
- Managing applications for translations from Galician into Castilian and vice versa of official documents, agreements and certificates originating in or destined for other Autonomous Communities or European Union institutions.
- Managing applications for translation into Castilian of official certificates issued in Galician that are to produce administrative effects in the public administrations in Spain's other Autonomous Communities.
- Managing applications for certificates of professional competence to provide sworn translation and interpretation services from other languages into Galician and vice versa, and maintaining the Official Registry of Professional Translators and Interpreters.

Finally, the above-mentioned **Termigal** (Galician Terminology Service) coordinates terminological activities relating to the Galician language, promotes and implements the development of terminological resources, ensures their availability and promotes the development of language engineering products related to terminology.

2. In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

3. The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

During the 2014-2016 period, important advances were made in the provision and dissemination of Galician language and culture outside the administrative borders of Galicia.

Firstly, in the sphere of universities, through the SXPL's network of Galician studies centres. Thanks to these centres, nearly 2,000 students enrolled, in each academic year during the period of reference, in subjects of Galician language, literature and culture offered by the following universities:

- In Europe (21):
 - Germany: Free University of Berlin, Kiel University, Heidelberg University
 - Croatia: University of Zadar
 - Finland: University of Helsinki
 - France: University of Paris III - New Sorbonne

- Hungary: Budapest University
- Ireland: University College Cork
- Italy: University of Padova, University of Perugia, Sapienza University of Rome
- Poland: Jagiellonian University of Krakow, Institute of Iberian and Ibero-American Studies of Warsaw
- Portugal: University of Algarve, University of Minho, New University of Lisbon
- United Kingdom: Bangor University (Wales), Oxford University
- Russia: Saint Petersburg University
- Switzerland: University of Zurich

- In Spain (9):
 - University of Alicante
 - Autónoma University of Barcelona
 - University of Barcelona
 - Deusto University (Bilbao)
 - University of Extremadura (Cáceres)
 - University of Granada
 - Complutense University of Madrid
 - University of Salamanca
 - University of the Basque Country (Vitoria-Gasteiz)

- The Americas (7):
 - USA: New York University
 - Brazil: Fluminense Federal University (Niterói), Rio de Janeiro State University, Federal University of Bahia (Salvador da Bahia), University of São Paulo
 - Argentina: University of Buenos Aires, University of Belgrano Foundation

It must be noted that 29 of these universities have a specialized assistant pursuant to agreements signed by the SXPL and the universities.

Moreover, in collaboration with Galicia's three universities and the RAG, summer courses in Galician language and culture for foreigners are also promoted, with the participation of more than one hundred university studies from all over the world.

In addition, the Galician Government promotes the teaching of Galician in formal education outside Galicia. In other areas of Spain, such as Castilla y León, there is collaboration between the regional governments of Galicia and of Castilla y León, and Galician has been taught in non-university education for ten years in the Galician-speaking areas of Castilla y León.

Abroad, teaching in Galician is promoted at the Santiago Apóstol School in Buenos Aires, at the Cañada Blanch Spanish Institute in London, and at the Castelao School in Caracas.

Ongoing dialogue and collaboration with various institutions outside Galicia has also contributed significantly to disseminating Galician language and culture abroad and to raising its international profile:

- The SXPL is a full-fledged founding member of the Network To Promote Linguistic Diversity (NPLD) (<http://www.npld.eu/>) and participates directly in this EU-wide network's activities.

- The Galician Government is party to the Collaboration Protocol signed by the Governments of Catalonia and the Basque Country, and the Mallorca Island Council, which has recently also been signed by the Governments of Valencia and of Navarre.
- Since 2005, the SXPL has been a member of the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE), a benchmark for language learning and for the production of standard examination models to certify language skills.

Please refer to the information that has been provided in the comments about Article 8, Education, with regard to Galician courses taught abroad by Instituto Cervantes.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

1. With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:

a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;

b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;

c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;

d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.

2. With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:

a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;

b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;

c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;

d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;

e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.

Article 25 of Act 3/1983, of 15 June, on language normalization, stipulates that the Galician Government and the local authorities, within their sphere of powers, shall promote the normalization of the use of Galician in commerce, advertising, culture, associations, sport and other activities. To this end, and for specific acts, exemptions from tax obligations, or reductions in this respect, may be allowed. Moreover, grants may be awarded to private companies, professional associations, business associations, chambers of commerce and non-profit-making organizations and associations to promote the use of Galician.

It is estimated that approximately 15% of the agreements signed during the 2014-2016 period have clauses on language, which affect at least 30,000 workers. The most frequent clauses refer to workers' right to carry out their professional activity in Galician, as it is Galicia's own language, and to receive training in the language. Other clauses refer to non-discrimination on the grounds of language. They shall promote the use of the Galician language in internal activities and in their relations with consumers and public administrations in Galicia. Other clauses refer to the fact that the collective agreement shall be written and published in Galician, or bilingually. The agreements involving staff of town councils those years also include clauses on knowledge of Galician being taken into consideration when assigning positions and allowing transfers of staff.

Slowly but surely, Galician is being incorporated into financial and banking documents. The Galician-language option is activated in most ATMs and in some cases is activated automatically when the card is inserted, if the client has previously stipulated this preference. In general, advertising and signage have long been conducted in Galician or bilingually. There is also the option to use Galician in formalizing a mortgage before a notary.

The official language of external communication and of the signage of health centres in Galicia belonging to the Galician Health Service (SERGAS) is Galician. All of the Health Department's and the SERGAS's regulatory documentation and software is in Galician. In centres such as the Santiago de Compostela University Hospital Complex, for example, all of the staff's internal communication (alerts, messages, etc.) is in Galician. In cases in which the signs are made by the centre's staff, these may sometimes be in Castilian only.

The Health Department publishes information leaflets on different health-related aspects: illnesses, recommendations on hygiene and good habits, etc. Most of these publications are published in Galician only.

Two Decrees are applicable to industrial production. Decree 101/85, of 23 May, which addresses the use of Galician in labelling and advertising products commercialized in Galicia, refers to the possibility of using Galician (only, or to the same extent as Castilian) in the labelling of containers or packaging of products commercialized in this Autonomous Community. Article 3 sets forth that it is up to the Department of Health and Consumer Affairs to establish grants or awards for companies commercializing products in Galicia using Galician in labelling, printing and advertising. The Decree of 16 June 1994 is still in force, and addresses the use of Galician in the labelling of products and in the information to consumers in Galicia. Except for the case of traditional products produced and distributed exclusively in Galicia, the legal obligation is to label products at least in Castilian. In this framework, since 2013 the Enrique Peinador Forum and the Galician Fraternity of Agrifood and Winery Businesses (IRGADE) have launched initiatives such as the Socially Responsible Consumption Charter. The Charter recognizes the duty of solidarity of entrepreneurs who took the step of labelling their products in Galician or using Galician in their advertising and

communication campaigns. It also promotes the commitment of the signatory institutions and entities to the quality and sustainable management of natural resources, as well as to the recovery of traditional species, breeds and varieties adapted to Galicia's habitat, as they provide Galician products with their own personality. Lastly, it addresses the duty of responsibility when deciding which products to consume, and stresses awareness of the fact that Galician products contribute to economic development and make it possible to keep the population in Galicia.

The labelling of products in Galicia is governed by Royal Decree 1334/1999, on the General Rules on Labelling, Presentation and Advertising of Food Products. Article 18, on the language of labelling, states that *"the labelling of food products commercialized in Spain shall be expressed, at least, in the official Spanish language of the State."*

The Royal Decree adds that *"The provisions of the above paragraph shall not be applicable to traditional products manufactured and distributed exclusively in an Autonomous Community that has an official language of its own."*

Moreover, Galicia has associations aimed at making Galician present in the spheres of business (Enrique Peinador Forum: <http://www.galequizargalicia.com/?partner=5>) and healthcare (Fraternity of Galician Healthcare).

Another initiative promoting commerce in Galicia is the "Selling in Galician" ("Vender en galego") campaign, led by the Galician Federation of Business Parks, and funded by the grant line for the promotion of Galician awarded in 2016 by the Department of Culture and Language of the Provincial Council of Pontevedra. "Selling in Galician" is a print campaign aimed at raising awareness among the business community and local retailers for the labelling of products in Galician (www.venderengalego.gal).

Also noteworthy in this regard are the Advertising in Galician Awards, granted by the SXPL, in collaboration with the Galician Parliament and the Enrique Peinador Forum, and aimed at promoting the use of the Galician language in advertising, and, in line with the provisions of the Plan to Promote Galician in the economic fabric 2016-2020. The 24th edition of these Awards was held in 2017, and awards were given for advertising on radio, television, the internet and the print press, recognizing aspects such as uniqueness, impact, language quality and multimedia content (for internet advertising).

Promoting and disseminating the Galician language in economic and social life

During the 2014-2016 period, the Galician Government carried out a wide-ranging and dynamic policy to promote and disseminate the Galician language in economic and social life. To achieve its goals, it enjoyed the support of an extensive network of associations, institutions and companies that have the purpose of, or are involved in, the process of promoting the Galician language among the general public. A great many collaboration agreements were signed with the aim of fostering and disseminating the Galician language in economic and social life.

The main innovation in this regard was the drafting and approval of the **Plan to Promote Galician in the economic fabric 2016-2020**. The principal goal of this plan is to reach consensus, because it seeks to increase the presence of Galician in the economy and to generalize the conviction that Galician is useful in the business world. Strengthening the use of Galician in the economic sphere is one of the guidelines set forth in the Language Normalization Plan approved unanimously by the Galician Parliament in 2004, which was also drafted by consensus, because it received contributions from 314 agents involved in the economic sector, in addition to the Galician Culture Council and the Galician Royal Academy.

The underlying principle of this new Plan is that the Galician language is not only a hallmark asset and provides the added value of trust, quality and closeness to

consumers, but also, it makes it possible to **communicate internationally** in the world's Portuguese-speaking emerging markets, such as Brazil and Angola. In line with this, the Galician Administration has launched, in recent years, campaigns such as "Exporting in Galician" ("Exportar en gallego"), with significant business results in the Portuguese-speaking world—which currently has more than 250 million speakers—and in some of the world's emerging economies.

The Plan establishes a total budget of €5,187,327 for its implementation.

The Plan is structured around three main strategic goals: raising awareness of the fact that the use of Galician enhances economic and business results, and labour, commercial and banking relations; extending the use of the language in the economic sphere, in labour, commercial and business relations, both in the supply and in the demand of services; and using the language to promote a unique and distinct brand for Galicia.

The Plan will be assessed in the framework of the Observatory of the Galician Language (<http://www.observatoriodalinguagalega.org>), through the creation of a standing working group. It must be highlighted that the Plan has been presented and undertaken as a model for the promotion of languages in the latest PEN International Congress held in New Delhi.

Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

The Parties undertake

a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;

b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/ or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.

Noteworthy here is the creation in 1997 of the **Centre for Galician Studies at the University of Minho**, as well as the establishment of the respective centres at the University of Algarve and at the New University of Lisbon. These centres are responsible for much of the success and progress in the sphere of language and culture that has taken place in recent decades as regards relations between Galicia and Portugal, not only within the university.

A historic milestone took place in 2013, when the Galician Parliament approved—as a result of a popular proposal endorsed by 17,000 signatures—what became known as the Paz-Andrade Act, under which Portuguese was promoted as a subject for study in Galicia's non-university education system. In fact, since this was implemented in the school year 2013-2014, and to date, several thousand pre-school, primary and secondary school students are studying Portuguese, and its choice as an elective is steadily growing.

Also growing is the presence of Galicia in the Portuguese-speaking community. Clear examples of this are: collaboration with the Camões Institute, the Galician Culture Council's status as an advisory observer of the Community of Portuguese-Language Country, and collaboration, since its first edition in 2015, in the Portugal-Galicia Cultural Convergence Week.

Likewise, the Galician Government has a close collaboration relationship with associations involved in promoting the Galician language in border areas between Galicia and the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León, such as the As Médulas Group for Galician Language and Culture in Bierzo. This collaboration has given rise to

different actions, such as the events in honour of author Antonio Fernández Morales, from Bierzo, on the 200th anniversary of his birth.

Other promotion initiatives worth noting are the Martin Sarmiento Days, in which the Galician Government's Department of Culture, Education and University Planning participates each year, through collaboration with the Martin Sarmiento Cultural Committee. On said Days, more than a thousand primary and secondary school students who are studying Galician language and culture in Bierzo and Sanabria, get together in Villafranca del Bierzo.

VALENCIAN IN THE VALENCIAN COMMUNITY

INTRODUCTION AND DATA ON THE NUMBER OF SPEAKERS

In 2015, the Directorate-General for Language Policy and Management of Multilingualism, of the Valencian Government's Department of Education, Research, Science and Sport, published a general survey on the knowledge and use of the Valencian language. This survey brings the statistical series that started in 1985 up to date. All of the data can be found in Valencian, Catalan, Castilian and English on the website:

<http://www.ceice.gva.es/web/fondo-estadistico-documental/fondo-datos-numericos>

The survey considered six regions (five of which are Valencian-speaking and one, Castilian-speaking), and in each case an independent sample was examined: the region of Alicante, the region of Alcoy-Gandía, the city of Valencia and its metropolitan area, the region of Valencia, the region of Castellón, and the Castilian-speaking region, with the sub-regions of Requena-Segorbe and Orihuela.

The survey, from the standpoint of language proficiency, addressed the following four basic dimensions: listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing.

a) Listening comprehension: Valencian understood

The historical distribution of the population in two predominant language zones—the Valencian-speaking (VS) zone and the Castilian-speaking (CS) zone—logically determines in our case (unlike other Autonomous Communities) the major variations that can be observed in proficiency in the language (and even more so in the social use of the language) throughout the territory. Indeed, the proportion of population who can understand Valencian, in the Valencian-speaking zone, is 96.3%. In other words, nearly the entire population. This figure is significant, especially bearing in mind that the population coming from other Autonomous Communities or from abroad tends to concentrate most predominantly in the Valencian-speaking zone.

The population increase due to foreign immigration has significant weight in the sector whose understanding of Valencian is “not at all”, and adds to the sector of those who understand it “a little”. The subsequent reversal of this population trend due to the economic crisis statistically strengthens the sector that understands it “a little”.

Can understand %	Total	VS	CS
Not at all	6.2	3.6	23.3
A little	21.4	18.7	39.4
Fairly well	28.3	28.3	28.3
Perfectly well	44.1	49.3	9.0
DK/NA	0.0	0.1	0.0
A little + Fairly well + Perfectly well	93.8	96.3	76.7
Fairly well + Perfectly well	72.4	77.6	37.3

b) Speaking

Most of the population (78.2% in all) can speak Valencian. The proportion rises up to 83.2% in the Valencian-speaking zone.

50.9% of the total population can speak Valencian without difficulties (i.e. “well” or “perfectly well”), a proportion that rises up to 56.4% in the VS zone. Lastly, 21.7% say that they cannot speak it at all, a proportion that drops to 16.7% in the VS zone.

The most important factors for learning the spoken language in the VS zone are, undoubtedly, families and school, and less importantly, neighbours or on their own; learning it in courses or through work is relatively rare.

This pattern changes in the CS zone, where most of the population who can speak Valencian learned it in school or on their own, and only one fifth learned it in their families. The process of preserving and expanding Valencian socially outside the traditional family environment (as a vernacular spoken at home) as a valid vehicle for current society’s communication needs, and its intergenerational transmission are supported by the incorporation of Valencian into the educational system and, most significantly, in self-learning, driven by the real need for certain levels of proficiency in Valencian with the introduction of the language in the workplace, in the public administration and in the public sphere in general. This can be seen in the fact that the proportion of people who speak Valencian having learned it in their family is 53%, but only 4.9% have learned to read it, and 2.8% have learned to write it (in the Valencian Community in general).

Can speak %	Total	VS	CS
Not at all	21.7	16.7	54.8
A little	27.3	26.8	30.5
Fairly well	17.9	19.0	10.7
Perfectly well	33.0	37.4	4.0
DK/NA	0.1	0.2	0.0
A little + Fairly well + Perfectly well	78.2	83.2	45.2

c) Reading

As regards reading comprehension, it must be taken into account that of all the dimensions of language proficiency, reading comprehension (understanding written messages) plays a key role in the current circumstances of modern-day urban life. In this regard it is very important to note that most of the population (79.9% in all, and 83.8% in the VS zone) can read in Valencian, ranging from a little to perfectly well, materials such as signs, posters, communications, advertisements, and festive literature. Of this population, 52.9% can read Valencian (i.e. magazines or books) fairly well or perfectly well.

A decisive factor for the steady increase in reading levels in Valencian are schools, where 48.2% of the population have learned to read in Valencian. The role of families only has 4.9% impact on learning to read. Other social spheres (neighbours or friends) are significant for speaking, but have very little influence on reading.

Can read %	Total	VS	CS
Not at all	20.1	16.2	45.9
A little	27.0	26.5	30.1
Fairly well	24.9	25.8	19.1
Perfectly well	28.0	31.4	4.9
DK/NA	0.0	0.1	0.0

d) Writing

Lastly, approximately 34.7% of those surveyed state that they can write Valencian “fairly well” or “perfectly well”, whereas 40.3% cannot write it at all.

The learning pattern of writing in Valencian is the same as that of reading, but with lower values for the impact of the different learning methods considered. Here, schools play an even more prominent role (60.7%), and are a determining factor for more than half of the population who write in Valencian.

Changes in the legal framework

The 1978 Constitution, on the one hand, and the Valencian Community’s basic legislation—its Statute of Autonomy and its Act on the Use and Teaching of Valencian—on the other, define the legal framework for the use and protection of Valencian. As we will see below, after 2015, Act 4/1983 on the Use and Teaching of Valencian is further developed.

The increase in the use of Valencian, closely linked to its learning, because knowledge and use mutually reinforce each other, involves certain basic measures, such as positive discrimination for Valencian. This has been set forth in law by the Valencian Government, which will implement the necessary measures for increasing not only its use, but also its prestige, which is essential for it to be used in the spheres with the greatest future (e.g. the internet and social networks) and in the most formal and representative spheres.

Likewise, the media cannot fail to consider Valencian as a language of expression. To this end, public media services have been recovered, and the introduction of Valencian in private media outlets is being fostered through grants.

Noteworthy here are the announcement of public grants to media in Valencian: TV, radio, and press (printed and digital), and Act 6/2016, of 15 July, on the Public Radio and Television Broadcasting Service of the Valencian Community, owned by the Valencian Government (Official State Gazette, or BOE, issue no. 192, dated 10 August 2016).

As will be stated below, Valencian Decree 155/2015, of 18 September, approved the Organizational and Functional Regulations of the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport, and included the functions of the new Directorate-General for Language Policy and Multilingualism Management.

APPLICATION OF THE CHARTER

Article 7 – Objectives and principles

Paragraph 1

In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:

a the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;

b the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language, in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;

c the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;

Noteworthy here is the creation of the Directorate-General for Language Policy and Multilingualism Management (DGPLGM), under the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport (CEICE).

With a cross-cutting approach, the new Directorate-General is responsible for the Valencian Government's powers in the area of language, understanding as such all of the actions aimed at promoting, fostering and increasing the institutional and social uses of Valencian, under a wide-ranging and inclusive perspective, thanks to the incorporation of multilingualism into its lines of action, specifically the academic organization of official language schools and the management of European programmes on education. . CEICE's Organizational and Functional Rules were approved by Valencian Decree 155/2015, of 18 September.

d the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;

e the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;

Since July 2015, the Directorate-General has visited the **El Carche** region in Murcia on three occasions, to hold meetings with the Mayors and Councillors of the towns of Yecla, Jumilla and Abanilla. The purpose of these meetings was to strengthen ties with the respective local administrations in order to inform them of the existence of public grants for promoting the use of Valencian. This Valencian-speaking region has ties with the Acadèmia Valenciana de la Llengua (Valencian Academy of Language, or AVL), the standard-setting institution for Valencian, through which the Universidad Popular of Yecla has organized Valencian courses. Pursuant to the report provided by the AVL, in this reporting period there have been six Valencian courses.

In order to strengthen these ties, in February 2016 the Director-General for Language Policy and Multilingualism Management met with municipal representatives from Abanilla and Jumilla.

It was precisely the commitment to fulfil the recommendations of the European Charter that led the Valencian Government to explicitly include the municipalities in El Carche as possible beneficiaries of the grants aimed at subsidizing activities to foster Valencian (Order 65/2016, of 18 October, of the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport).

As regards **Catalonia and the Balearic Islands**, relations are constant, with different meetings of those responsible for language policy in the three Governments. Initially, at the protocol level, in the institutional events of the year commemorating the Majorcan scholar Ramon Llull, which took place in Barcelona (30 November 2015), Palma (29 March 2016) and Valencia (14 May 2016). In Valencia, the homage to Ramon Llull was part of the *Primavera Educativa* (Educational Spring), held from 13 to 15 May 2016. Afterwards, the first official working meeting was held on 9 November 2016 in Barcelona, attended by three Directors-General. The Valencian Government's aim in participating in the Llull project is to contribute to better knowledge of Valencian and Catalan in Spain. Therefore, in addition to foreign universities, the goal is to create

assistantships in different universities in Spain, starting this year with the universities of Santiago de Compostela, Aut3noma of Madrid, and Granada.

In mid-2016, work began on drafting what would become Order 7/2017, of 2 March, of the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport, which would be published in 2017 (Official Journal of the Valencian Government, or DOGV, issue no. 7993, of 6 March 2017). This order regulates, among other matters, the official administrative certificates accrediting knowledge of Valencian issued by the Junta Qualificadora de Coneixements de Valencià (Qualification Board for Knowledge of Valencian, or JQCV), as well as their validation and recognition as equivalent to other qualifications and certificates.

Lastly, it is important to mention relations with the Institut d'Estudis Catalans (Institute for Catalan Studies, or IEC), the standard-setting authority for the Catalan language, while respecting Valencia's own standard-setting body, the AVL. In this new period, the Valencian Government has asked the IEC to collaborate in creating shared spaces for the IEC, the AVL and the University of the Balearic Islands (as a standard-setting reference in this field) to work together.

Valencia also has cooperation relations with Autonomous Communities with which it does not have a shared language, but with standard-setting powers, such as **Galicia, the Basque Country and Navarre**. It also has relations with **Asturias and Aragon**, Autonomous Communities with languages that do not have co-official status.

On 16 March 2007, the Governments of the Basque Country, Catalonia and Galicia signed a collaboration protocol aimed at giving fresh impetus to their respective language policies and investing the necessary efforts to work together towards the normalization of the official languages other than Castilian, especially in the sphere of Spain's Central Administration. After that, on 27 November 2008, the Government of the Balearic Islands also signed this protocol, joining in on this collective readiness to cooperate.

On 14 May 2016, the Valencian Government organized a seminar in Valencia with language policy heads from different Autonomous Communities. At that seminar, the representative of the Valencian Government expressed Valencia's will to sign said protocol, given its interest in combining efforts in this regard. Valencia's membership was accepted by the Monitoring Committee of the General Language Policy Protocol, at its meeting of 4 April 2017 in Santiago de Compostela, at which the membership of the Government of Navarre was also accepted.

Thus, the Valencian Government has resumed or initiated relations with all of the Autonomous Communities with a language of their own, and convened them to meet on 13, 14 and 15 May 2016 in the framework of the Educational Spring, where they were able to participate in a Language Policy Seminar and in a Languages Fair.

f the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;

g the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;

As will be stated below, when analysing Article 8 of the Charter, in addition to the educational system, the teaching of Valencian to adults is guaranteed through the

Valencian Community's 17 Official Language Schools and 238 Adult Education Centres.

Also noteworthy is the agreement with the Red Cross, whereby it gives Valencian courses to immigrant population, to facilitate their integration and accompany them as soon as they settle into a town or city in Valencia.

h the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;

The Valencian Government's aim in participating in the Lull project, as stated above, is to contribute to better knowledge of Valencian and Catalan in Spain. Therefore, in addition to assistantships in the foreign universities of Amiens, Cambridge and Turin, the goal is to create assistantships in different universities in Spain, starting this year with the universities of Santiago de Compostela, Autónoma of Madrid, and Granada.

Part III.

Article 8 – Education

Paragraph 1

With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages; or

b i to make available primary education in the regional or minority languages; or

c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

In 2016, the Valencian Government initiated work to draft new educational provisions to regulate vehicular languages in non-university education: Valencian Decree 9/2017, establishing the Valencian educational language model and regulating its application in non-university education in the Autonomous Community of Valencia.

The Decree sets forth multilingual education goals for all students in the entire territory, based on the immediate sociolinguistic context (the dynamics are different depending on the zone) and on the students' communication needs. It establishes a single programme, called the Dynamic Multilingual Educational Programme (PEPD), with several progressive levels.

The new Decree on multilingualism increases the teaching of Valencian in all of the schools that will teach the most advanced levels, and which represent approximately 40% of the schools in the regions in Alicante, 55% of those in Valencia, and up to 83% of those in Castellón. Fulfilment of the programme requires sufficient prior teacher training, as will be described below.

However, said Decree 9/2017 has been suspended by the Valencian Community's High Court of Justice.

d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

At advanced levels there are currently very few technical and vocational schools with subjects in which Valencian is the vehicular language. The Valencian Government had not promoted this possibility but, rather, left it in the hands of the personal initiative of teachers or of schools, because there was no specific regulation.

In order to redress this shortfall, Decree 9/2017 stipulates the application of the PEPD in these educational levels and, for the first time, establishes a specific percentage of teaching in Valencian (and in English), which will make it possible to increase the presence of Valencian in technical and vocational training modules.

e iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;

For the drafting of this report, the Valencian Community's five public universities have sent information regarding university teaching in Valencian. This information varies greatly among institutions. Several factors can account for these variations, most noteworthy of which are the age of each university and the number of students each one has:

- Universitat de València-Estudi General (UEG)
- Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV)
- Universitat d'Alacant (UA)
- Universitat Jaume I de Castelló (UJI)
- Universitat Miguel Hernández d'Elx (UMH)

The following tables show the percentage of subjects according to their vehicular languages: Valencian, Castilian, English and other languages. The information provided spans academic year 2011 to 2021, but for our report we will focus on years 2014-2015 and 2015-2016.

Academic year 2014-15

%	IN VALENCIAN	IN CASTILIAN	IN ENGLISH	OTHER LANGUAGES
UA	7.41	86.59	5.40	0.61
UJI	21.08	73.89	5.02	-
UMH	0	99.22	0.78	0
UPV	4.41	91.56	3.95	-
UEG	32.60	58.80	6.60	1.90
AVERAGE	13.10	82.02	4.35	0.50

Academic year 2015-16

%	IN VALENCIAN	IN CASTILIAN	IN ENGLISH	OTHER LANGUAGES
UA	7.13	86.62	5.66	0.60
UJI	20.26	74.20	5.53	-
UMH	0	99.68	0.32	0
UPV	6.54	87.56	6.58	-
UEG	34.30	57.40	6.40	1.90
AVERAGE	13.65	81.10	4.90	0.50

We can break down the percentages by university:

UA	In Valencian	In Castilian	In English	In other languages
2014-15	7.41	86.59	5.40	0.61
2015-16	7.13	86.62	5.66	0.60
UJI	In Valencian	In Castilian	In English	In other languages
2014-15	21.08	73.89	5.02	-
2015-16	20.26	74.20	5.53	-
UMH	In Valencian	In Castilian	In English	In other languages
2014-15	0	99.22	0.78	0
2015-16	0	98.68	0.32	0
UPV	In Valencian	In Castilian	In English	In other languages
2014-15	4.41	91.56	3.95	-
2015-16	6.54	87.56	6.58	-
UVEG	In Valencian	In Castilian	In English	In other languages
2014-15	32.60	58.80	6.60	1.90
2015-16	34.30	57.4	6.40	1.90

It is clear that the vehicular language in public university teaching is predominantly Castilian. Taking the two years of reference of the ECRML report, we can see that there is a slight increase in the percentage of teaching in Valencian (rising from 13.10% to 13.65%) and in English (from 4.35% to 4.90%).

%	In Valencian	In Castilian	In English	In other languages
AVERAGE 2014	13.10	82.02	4.35	0.50
AVERAGE 2016	13.65	81.10	4.90	0.50

Noteworthy among the universities is the UVEG, where teaching in Valencian reached 34.30% in 2016, as opposed to the UMH, which in the past five years has not taught any subject in Valencian. The UVEG has opted to leave behind the two-track system of teaching in Valencian and in Castilian, and now uses a random distribution system aimed at having 50% of subjects in each language. This is reflected in its Plan to Increase Teaching in Valencian (approved by its Governing Council in 2012), according to which the goal was to achieve a minimum percentage of 35% in five years.

Order 66/2016, of 18 October, of the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport, approved the terms and conditions regulating grants to promote Valencian and multilingualism in the social sphere, including universities and university networks among the possible beneficiaries. Subsequently, a Resolution of 28 October 2016, of the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport, announced its grants for 2016, specifically those corresponding to budget line S0091000, which earmarked €300,000, of which €150,000 were allocated to universities and €150,000 to university networks. For 2017, the budget is €400,000 (€220,000 for universities and €180,000 for university networks).

In the case of universities, the activities eligible for grants are, precisely, training activities aimed at increasing teaching in Valencian, the creation of digital platforms for learning Valencian, and training and motivating university language volunteers. As for university networks, eligible activities are those that involve fostering and enhancing the social prestige of Valencian, those involving employability, in which Valencian is the driving force of the activity.

f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages;

The aforementioned Decree 9/2017 also includes adult education in the language system (Article 13). In adult education, in addition to learning Valencian as a module,

Valencian is also incorporated as the vehicular language of at least one module (GES-1) or two modules (GES-2), in addition to having a foreign language as a vehicular language.

The teaching of Valencian to adults is guaranteed by the Valencian Community's 17 Official Language Schools and 238 Adult Education Centres. The Qualification Board for Knowledge of Valencian (JQCV) is the body responsible for the certification of proficiency in Valencian for adults. The JQCV was created by Valencian Government Decree 173/1985, of 28 October. It issues the following certifications: certificate in spoken Valencian (A2), elementary certificate (B1), intermediate certificate (C1) and advanced certificate (C2). It also organizes tests in administrative language, copy-editing, and language in the media.

The evolution in enrolment by level in recent years has been as follows:

	2014	2015	2016
Certificate in Spoken Valencian - A2	915	1,131	1,702
Elementary Certificate - B1	2,159	2,865	4,025
Intermediate Certificate - C1	18,089	23,972	32,069
Advanced Certificate - C2	8,250	8,338	13,173
Technical language skills	197	221	412
Total	29,610	36,527	51,921

In the process of adapting to the CEFR, since July 2016 the Summer Courses organized annually by the Directorate-General are exclusively dedicated to the Framework's levels, descriptors and tasks. The evolution in enrolment in these courses is as follows:

SUMMER COURSES		
July 2014	July 2015	July 2016
136	100	160

Training given to secondary school teachers and language professionals (experts, translators, advisers, language teachers, etc.) was repeated in September 2016:

CITY	PARTICIPANTS
Alicante	103
Castellón	57
Xàtiva	103
Valencia	126
TOTAL	389

g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;

h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;

Almost 90% of teachers are proficient in Valencian. In recent years, there has been a significant increase in the numbers of persons with accredited knowledge of Valencian, especially among teachers and regional civil servants. Currently, most of the teachers in the Valencian education system hold a certificate of Valencian-language proficiency.

The aforementioned Decree 9/2017 sets forth in Article 36 a specific training plan for the application of the Dynamic Multilingual Educational Programme (PEPD) that guarantees the necessary training in language and in teaching methods.

The following table shows the percentage of teachers who have the Certificate to teach in Valencian and in English:

	VALENCIAN	%	ENGLISH	%¹
Primary	20,428	76.3	3,883	14.4
Secondary	15,607	72.9	1,963	9.2
Others²	3,877	59.1	477	7.2
TOTAL	40,212	72.0	6,323	11.5
NOTES	% with regard to the total number of teachers ² Official Language Schools, technical schools, art schools, etc.			

Order 90/2013, of 6 November, of the Department of Education, Culture and Sport, which regulates the classification of certain staff positions in public schools according to the language requirement of Valencian, set forth 1 September 2017 as a deadline for public school teachers to accredit having a Certificate in Valencian Language Skills. The Order also stipulated that temporary teachers who did not accredit said Certificate would be excluded from job listings. However, the Decision of 5 June 2017, announcing the procedure of the provisional assignment of positions for teachers on a trial period and temporary teachers for the year 2017-2018, introduced an amendment with regard to temporary teachers. Temporary teachers who do not accredit having said Certificate will be temporarily excluded from job listings until they obtain said accreditation. Then, they will once again be included on job listings, in the same place they had before, and will once again be able to participate in any processes announced.

The data provided by the Teacher Training Service shows a considerable increase in the number of teachers enrolled in the training offered by the Service to obtain the Certificate in Valencian and English:

	2015	2016
CERTIFICATION IN VALENCIAN	356	501
CERTIFICATION IN ENGLISH	120	534
NOTE	<i>Data from 2014 have not been obtained.</i>	

Another matter worth mentioning in Article 8 is the University Degree in Catalan Philology. During the fourth monitoring round, the Committee of Experts was informed that Valencian citizens holding this university degree were not allowed to take the competitive examinations for teaching positions because the Education Administration considered that such a degree was not appropriate for becoming a secondary school teacher specializing in Valencian.

The new Valencian Government accepts the validity of the University Diploma in Catalan Philology, as can be seen in the announcements for competitive examinations for teaching positions in Secondary Education and in other competitive examination processes, as well as in the awarding of professional grants (*Order 87/2016, of 21 December, of the Department of Education, Research, Science and Sport, which approved the terms and conditions regulating the awarding of grants to carry out*

internships at the offices of the Directorate-General for Language Policy and Multilingualism Management).

Moreover, and in the framework of the European Day of Languages 2016, a training session aimed at language teachers was held, in which participation of experts in multilingualism and intergenerational language transmission participated, in addition to sharing best practices in programmes such as eTwinning, and analysing in depth the European Language Portfolio.

i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

Decree 9/2017 sets forth the supervision and monitoring of each school's Dynamic Multilingual Educational Programme. On the one hand, the Education Inspectorate is responsible for monitoring and supervising the implementation of programmes, pursuant to Article 32. On the other, the teaching advisers on multilingual education (a position created by the same Decree, in Article 33) are in charge of advising schools on the implementation of the PEPD and collaborating on monitoring with the Inspectorate. Lastly, the Decree sets forth that a global evaluation of the language model be carried out to verify the degree of compliance with the goals and to improve multilingual education (*Article 37. Purpose of the comprehensive evaluation of Valencia's language model*).

Article 9 – Justice

Paragraph 1

The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:

a in criminal proceedings:

i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or

iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or

iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;

b in civil proceedings:

i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages,

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages

if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

The Committee of Experts strongly urges the Spanish authorities:

- to amend the legal framework with a view to making it clear that the criminal, civil and administrative judicial authorities in Valencia will conduct the proceedings in Valencian at the request of one party;

- to take the necessary measures to ensure, as appropriate, that the parties to a proceeding are specifically informed of the obligation of the judicial authorities in Valencia to conduct the proceedings in Valencian if one of the parties so requests, in conformity with the undertakings entered into by Spain under Article 9 para. 1.a.i, 1.b.i and 1.c.i of the Charter;

to take the necessary measures to increase the proportion of judicial staff in Valencia, at all levels and particularly among judges and prosecutors, who are competent in the use of Valencian as a working language in courts;

- to develop adequate training schemes for judicial staff as well as for lawyers.

Recommendations by the Committee of Ministers:

1. amend the legal framework with a view to making it clear that the criminal, civil and administrative judicial authorities in the Autonomous Communities can conduct the proceedings in co-official languages at the request of one party;

2. continue to implement legal and step up practical measures aimed at ensuring that an adequate proportion of the judicial staff posted in the Autonomous Communities concerned by the application of Article 9 of the Charter has a working knowledge of the relevant languages;

Please see the general information, non-specific to the Autonomous Community, provided with respect to Article 9 of the Charter, and with respect to Recommendations

1 and 2 of the Committee of Ministers, in the section of this report corresponding to Catalan in Catalonia.

In the Valencian Community's sphere of authority, the report sent by the Department of Justice, Public Administration, Democratic Reform and Public Freedoms, on the creation of the new Judicial Office in the Valencian Community, set forth that in the first phase it was necessary to draft the lists of positions (RPTs), and thus, a total of 40 civil service positions in the Justice Administration (the part under the authority of the Valencian Community) were assigned a language profile. The positions are for administrative and management staff who will now be required to have Valencian language skills for use in the general affairs and common services of the new working structure of the judicial bodies. These 40 positions constitute 10% of the total number of positions, as the organization will comprise nearly 400 civil servants.

The same procedure will be followed in the RPTs of the Justice Administration, in which there will also be a percentage of positions classified with a language profile in Valencian. This is justified because having staff with accredited knowledge of Valencian will make it possible to serve citizens in the two official languages (Valencian and Castilian), respect the language rights of speakers of Valencian, and progressively expand the presence of the Valencian Community's own language (as defined in the Valencian Community's Statute of Autonomy, i.e. Organic Law 5/1982, of 1 July) in the Justice Administration.

Since July 2015, the Directorate-General for Justice has offered training in Valencian for the staff of the Justice Administration in the Courthouses of Alicante (330,525 inhabitants), Valencia (790,201 inhabitants), Castellón (170,990 inhabitants), and Elx (227,659 inhabitants). This initiative was expanded this year to the Courthouses of Alzira (44,488 inhabitants), Benidorm (66,642 inhabitants), Vinarós (28,290 inhabitants), and Torreveja (84,213 inhabitants).

These training actions, carried out in collaboration with the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport, have seen a 51% increase in enrolment, because in 2015-2016, 326 staff members enrolled, and in the current year (2016-2017), 494 staff members have enrolled.

In addition, in 2016 the Department of Justice, Public Administration, Democratic Reform and Public Freedoms and Spain's Ministry of Justice signed an agreement that made it possible for those who hold a Degree in Law from the Valencian Community to take the tests providing access to the professions of solicitor and barrister in Valencian, starting in 2017. The tests providing access to the professions of solicitor and barrister are organized by the Ministry of Justice, pursuant to Act 34/2006, throughout Spain. The agreement guarantees that even though there is only a single test for all of Spain providing access to the professions of solicitor and barrister, Valencian candidates are, at the same time, conferred the right to take it in Valencian if they so wish.

In 2016, a study was conducted on the need to expand and strengthen in certain courthouses, in 2017, the Office for the Promotion of the Use of Valencian, responsible for translating and providing language-related advice to the judicial bodies of the Valencian Community, as well as for coordinating courses in Valencian. Accordingly, a new expert has been appointed, and the Department of the Treasury has been asked for permission to appoint another language expert.

During this period, work has also been done to create, as soon as possible, a website, in coordination with the Directorate-General and the Valencian Academy of Language, with documentation, legislation and other information of interest, which will serve as support and reference both for legal practitioners (judges, prosecutors, Justice

Administration attorneys, solicitors, barristers, labour relations experts, etc.) and for other staff of the Justice Administration.

There is also a commitment, undertaken in November 2016, to collaborate with the “Jurist in Valencian” initiative, promoted by the Institutional Chair in Foral Valencian Law and the Law School of the University of Valencia, with the aim of designing a syllabus for future graduates in Law to be able to practice law in Valencia’s own language.

3. The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.

Spain’s Official State Gazette [*Boletín Oficial del Estado*] is published in the different co-official languages.

The Government of the Autonomous Community of Valencia is responsible for:

- - Producing the Catalan version of the BOE, in rotation and collaboration with the Government of the Autonomous Community of Catalonia.
- - Producing the Valencian version of the Personal Income Tax returns (IRPF).
- - Producing the Valencian version of the documentation involved in electoral processes.
- - Translating into Valencian the Ministry of Justice’s tests (solicitors and barristers).

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

Paragraph 1

Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:

a) i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages;

The Committee of Experts urges the Spanish authorities to substantially increase the number of Valencian-speaking staff in the relevant state administration offices and to develop adequate training schemes.

b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;

c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.

In the national framework, the training activities to increase and improve the use of Valencian in public services in the Valencian Community have been constant. In addition to training actions in co-official languages being carried out in different sectors, Spain’s General State Administration (AGE) implements its training policy for its civil service staff through the National Institute of Public Administration (INAP), a self-governing body attached to the Ministry of the Treasury and of the Civil Service. INAP has been collaborating for years in promoting the learning of co-official languages at different levels by the AGE’s civil service staff posted in the Autonomous Communities

that have another official language in addition to Castilian, including the staff of the State Security Forces.

However, it should be noted that **the staff of Spain’s Central Administration (AGE) has a good knowledge of Valencian:** roughly 90% of said staff can understand it (The level of knowledge is on a sliding scale ranging from *understanding*, and *understanding and speaking*, to *understanding, speaking and writing*).

The INAP has conducted its training in collaboration with the Valencian Government’s Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport, and with the Delegation of the Central Government in the Valencian Community.

INAP’s Valencian-language courses are offered online, and correspond to spoken language (A2), elementary level (B1) and intermediate level (C1).

The learning platform on which the courses are offered has been developed by the Deputy Directorate-General for Language Policy (<http://minerva.edu.gva.es/>).

The content of these training activities are adapted to the general objectives set forth for the levels established in Annex I of the Order of 16 August 1994 of the Department of Education and Science, which established the official administrative certificates accrediting knowledge of Valencian, and recognized and validated other certifications (DOGV issue no. 2,331, of 24 August 1994).

The aim of the courses is to prepare the official tests organized by the JQCV.

Basic data on the Valencian-language courses supported by the INAP:

YEAR	No.	No. HOURS	APPLICATIONS RECEIVED	ADMITTED/ STATE SECURITY FORCES	No. TEACHERS	SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS
	EDITIONS					
2013	7	490	301	301/72	5	NA
2014	7	490	326	311/86	4	73 (23.5%)
2015	7	490	410	357/123	3	81 (22.7%)

In procedures to assign positions, accredited knowledge of the Valencian language is assessed as a specific merit.

Equally noteworthy is the translation of documents and forms into Valencian, as well as the translation of the websites of Ministries and other national public agencies. Posters and signage are also bilingual.

For its part, regarding the languages used in administrative procedures, Act 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of the Public Administrations, sets forth in Article 15 that:

1. The language of procedures carried out by the General State Administration shall be Castilian. Notwithstanding the foregoing, those interested parties addressing the General State Administration bodies that are located in the territory of an Autonomous Community may also use the co-official language thereof.

In this case, the procedure shall be carried out in the interested party’s language of choice. If several interested parties are participating in the procedure, and there is a discrepancy regarding the language used, the procedure shall be carried out in Castilian. However, any documents or statements required by the interested parties shall be issued in their language of choice.

2. *In procedures carried out by the Administrations of the Autonomous Communities and of the Local Entities, the use of the language shall be in accordance with the provisions of the corresponding Autonomous Community's legislation.*

3. *The Public Administration carrying out the procedure must translate into Castilian any documents, dossiers, or parts thereof that are to be effective outside the territory of the Autonomous Community, and any documents addressed to interested parties who request this explicitly. If they are to be effective in the territory of an Autonomous Community where that same language, other than Castilian, is co-official, they shall not need to be translated.*

This item is completed with the information on the General State Administration's compliance with the commitments of the Charter.

Paragraph 2.

In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:

- a) the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;***
- b) the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;***

The Language Use and Rights Service reports to the Directorate-General for Language Policy and Multilingualism Management.

The Service has made significant progress in this regard, especially in those areas involved in developing the basic language-related legislation.

On 23 November 1983, Act 4/1983, on the Use and Teaching of Valencian, the basic language-related law in the Valencian Community's sphere of authority, was approved and published in the DOGV. Years later, the Valencian Government's Decree 178/1988, of 15 November, was approved, establishing the composition and functions of the Interdepartmental Commission for the Implementation of the Use of Valencian, pursuant to Act 4/1983, of 23 November, on the Use and Teaching of Valencian.

On 16 November 2015, the Interdepartmental Commission was once again constituted, at a meeting in which three decisions were approved: ratification of the Ares Declaration (Guidelines for the use of Valencia in the sphere of administration); instructions for the use of Valencian as the habitual language of administrative documents; and a guide on institutional language use.

The Interdepartmental Commission has met on two other occasions: on 1 July 2016, and on 19 May 2017. At these meetings the following decisions were adopted:

- Developing Act 4/1983, specifically the drafting of:
 - Decree 61/2017, regulating the institutional and administrative use of official languages in the Valencian Government administration
 - The Decree creating the Office of Language Rights
- Drafting and launching the Language Support Plan for the Valencian Government administration staff.

All of these actions have resulted in a considerable increase in the use of Valencian in the institutional and administrative sphere, as can be seen in the services that directly

interact with the public. The 012 GVA Service, a fully bilingual public information service, bears witness to this. The data on this Service is as follows:

012 GVA	% Valencian	% Castilian
2015	42.39%	57.61%
2016	43.37%	56.63%
2017 (up to May)	42.53%	57.47%
<i>Average</i>	<i>42.84%</i>	<i>57.16%</i>

One of the Valencian Government's commitments (approved by the Interdepartmental Commission) is to develop the Act on the Use and Teaching of Valencian (Act 4/1983). Decree 61/2017 is the result of said commitment: it regulates the institutional and administrative use of the official languages in the Valencian Government administration (DOGV issue no. 8046, of 23 May 2017).

To make Valencian a habitual and normal language of communication in the Valencian administration, said Decree sets forth in Article 4 that: *"1. Valencian is the own language of the Valencian Government administration, and as such, it shall be the predominant language for normal and general use. No limitation to the other official language should be inferred from this statement."*

To implement the aforementioned Language Support Plan, in 2016 an open procedure contract was tendered to commission translation works for approximately €1,708,000.00, with a base tender budget of €850,000.00, and was recently awarded.

e) the publication by regional collectives of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;

The section dedicated to Article 9 of the Charter offers information in this regard, in addition to the above-mentioned translation contract.

Also noteworthy is the creation of the Office of Language Rights, a project that was initiated in December 2016, and which will probably come to fruition in September 2017 in the form of a Decree.

d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;

e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.

Paragraph 3

With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:

a to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service;

b to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request and receive a reply in these languages; or

c to allow users of regional or minority languages to submit a request in these languages.

The Valencian Government and its Departments, units and agencies all have web portals and means of electronic communication to ensure the publication of content in Valencian: this content includes procedures, services, forms, organizational structure and job announcements. One of the most important websites for the public on the Valencian Government's portal is what is known as the PROP Guide: (http://www.gva.es/en/inicio/atencion_ciudadano/buscadores).

There is also an alert service enabling users to choose the language in which they wish to receive information.

Online instruction in Valencian is provided through the platform <http://saps.gva.es>.

The section dedicated to the General State Administration gives further information for this item with regard to the public services reporting thereto.

Paragraph 4

With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:

a translation or interpretation as may be required;

To strengthen Valencian language skills, several actions were implemented simultaneously, both in training and in standardization. The Valencian Government administration's linguistic criteria were approved and published in a Decision of 23 November 2016 (DOGV issue no. 7923, of 23 November 2016), which states their purpose:

(...) In order to comply with this provision, this Decision hereby approves the language criteria that seek, on the one hand, to support any person interested in writing correctly in Valencian in their aim to achieve good language proficiency. And on the other hand, even though these criteria are mandatory for the Valencian Government administration and agencies reporting thereto, the aim is to make them available to all of the public administrations that carry out activities in our Autonomous Community.

Language experts from Valencian municipal, provincial, university and self-governing public institutions participated in the process of drafting these criteria, which aim to be a functional and practical tool focused on achieving excellence in communication, interaction and service to the Valencian public in the 21st century. (...)

b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;

As stated above, the Directorate-General's Training Plan, whereby courses are organized and coordinated, was expanded in order to ensure the acquisition or strengthening of Valencian language skills for all public employees. The Plan is implemented through different lines:

- face-to-face courses at the workplace: Departments (headquarters and other offices) and public sector companies, foundations, etc.;
- online courses through Valencian Government agencies (IVAP or EVES) or Central Government agencies (INAP)

The evolution of courses since 2014 has been as follows:

	FACE-TO-FACE		ONLINE	
	COURSES	STUDENTS	COURSES	STUDENTS
2014-2015	49	1,070	19	814
2015-2016	122	2,154	15*	1,004
2016-2017	128	2,917	17	1,200
NOTES	*In 2015-2016, INAP did not ask the Directorate-General for courses.			

The Language Support Plan for the Valencian Government Administration Staff (PAL-GVA) seeks to steadily increase the Valencian language proficiency of the staff of the Valencian Government administration. The achievement of this proficiency should result in balanced language skills in the two official languages and, consequently, in an increase in the spheres in which Valencian is used.

The Directorate-General for Language Policy and Multilingualism Management conducted a survey in the last quarter of 2016 among the staff of the Valencian Government administration, in which 1,100 people were interviewed, and the results of which are shown below.

Proficiency in Valencian is broken down into language skills:

- ✓ Understands Valencian (fairly well or perfectly well): 92.0%
- ✓ Speaks Valencian (fairly well or perfectly well): 57.3%
- ✓ Reads in Valencian (fairly well or perfectly well): 80.6%
- ✓ Writes in Valencian (fairly well or perfectly well): 45.9%

86.6% of people working in the Valencian administration can accredit their knowledge of Valencian: 52.9% has level C1 or C2, and 33.7% has level B1.

However, even though 45.9% of staff members state to be capable of writing in Valencian, only 13.2% of the Valencian Government's written production is in Valencian. Similarly, even though 57.3% of staff members state to be capable of speaking in Valencian, only 12.3% of oral communication with the public takes place in Valencian.

That said, an indicator that can be positively highlighted is the fact that 74% of the questionnaires were answered in Valencian. Likewise, the results show a positive attitude towards increasing the use of Valencian in the Valencian Government's language ecosystem. In fact, 62% of the administration's staff believe that Valencian will be used more in the future. It is also worth noting the large attendance of Valencian courses organized by the Directorate-General: 92.7% of staff members have at least once in their career attended one of these courses.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 1

The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are

competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:

**a) to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:
i) to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or**

The Committee of Experts urges the Spanish authorities to take the necessary measures to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of one public TV channel and a public radio station in Valencian.

In accordance with the information provided in the fourth periodic report, between 1987 and 2012 the Valencian Community had one public radio and TV broadcasting company: RTVV, SA (Radiotelevisió Valenciana, Societat Anònima). The company was wound up through Act 3/2012, of 20 July, on the Valencian Radio and Television Broadcasting Statute, which created the new public company Radiotelevisió Valenciana SAU, and subsequently, TV shows in Valencian were broadcast on Nou and Nou24, and radio was broadcast on Radio 9 and Sí Radio. Said Act set forth that the new public station would preferentially use Valencian in its provision of audiovisual communication services. After that, in November 2013, the Valencian Government decided to wind up the public company Radiotelevisió Valenciana SAU.

Therefore, the only broadcasts in Valencian are those broadcast by the national station Radio Television Española (RTVE) in its regional news programme, broadcast at lunchtime, and in which Valencian is not the only language of communication.

A great many radio and TV stations offer part or all of their programmes in Valencia (depending on the area in which they are based).

On 19 July 2016, Valencian Government Act 6/2016, of 15 July, on the Valencian Government-owned Public Radio and Television Broadcasting Service in the Autonomous Community, was published in the DOGV. This Act clearly expressed the need to fill the information gap in Valencia's own language. The Act created the Valencian Media Corporation, a public entity whose functions in relation to this report include:

a) Guaranteeing the generation of information content and the broadcasting of objective, accurate, accessible and unbiased information, which shall fully comply with the criteria of professional independence and the political, social, ideological and territorial plurality of the Autonomous Community of Valencia.

(...)

k) Promoting and disseminating historical, cultural, educational and language-related values, in all their wealth and variety, to contribute to the development of the Autonomous Community of Valencia.

(...)

n) Promoting territorial cohesion and language diversity by broadcasting in Valencian, which will be the vehicular language of the public media reporting to the Valencian Government.

o) Promoting the knowledge and use of foreign languages and of Spain's other languages and language modalities.

The Act also set forth the creation of a Governing Board and a Directorate-General; these bodies are already working on launching the Valencian public radio and television broadcasting service.

In addition, the Governing Board is working together with the Directorate-General for Language Policy on drafting an agreement with the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport which would guarantee the production of audiovisual content that may be used in classrooms and, therefore, comply with the provisions of the Valencian Government Decree 9/2017, of 27 January, which established Valencia's educational language model and regulates its implementation in non-university education in the Valencian Community (DOGV issue no. 7973, of 6 February 2017). Additional Provision Seven of this Decree clearly sets forth the important role of the media in a truly multilingual educational system:

Seven. Media

1. With the aim of promoting, on the one hand, the educational and language-related values contributing to the development of the Autonomous Community of Valencia and to social and territorial cohesion, and on the other, the knowledge and use of foreign languages, especially English, any necessary agreements shall be signed with the Valencian Media Corporation and other media present in the territory of the Valencian Community, to implement activities strengthening the knowledge of the languages regulated by the present Decree.

2. Programmes and audiovisual productions in Valencian, in original version with subtitles, and in foreign languages adapted to the needs of the different educational stages, shall be promoted.

b) i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages; or

c) i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages; or

d to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;

e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages; or

In the private sector, the print versions of newspapers distributed exclusively in the Valencian Community use Castilian as their habitual language of expression. Some of them dedicate a section to cultural and educational news, and here, Valencian is the language of expression. In such cases, and in other media that choose not to reserve a section for Valencian, opinion columns by occasional collaborators are in the language chosen by the columnist.

In digital press there are more options in Valencian: newspapers that have chosen Valencian as their vehicular language; newspapers that have chosen to have two digital versions: one in Castilian and one in Valencian; lastly, newspapers that only have certain articles in Valencian.

This latter option is also the most popular in newspapers that are distributed throughout Spain: in their Valencian Community edition, some of these newspapers publish (both in print and in the digital version) articles in Valencian, either because of their subject-matter or because the author has chosen to do so.

Also noteworthy is the case of newspapers published in Catalonia. Certain newspapers have a digital version in Catalan, with articles on Valencian issues. And some are solely in Catalan, with a Valencian Community edition.

f) ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages.

In 2014, the Valencian Government announced grants to promote the use of Valencian in audiovisual media, television and radio. This announcement (Order 83/2014, of 20 October, of the Department of Education, Culture and Sport, announcing financial assistance for radio and television companies to promote the Valencian language) covered the period ranging from the second quarter of 2014 and the first quarter of 2015, with the following budget allocation:

- In 2014, €800,000 were awarded to seven companies: five radio stations (€300,000) and two television stations (€500,000).
- In the first quarter of 2015, €1,585,000 were awarded to eight companies: five radio stations (€600,000) and two television stations (€985,000).

In July 2015, a new announcement was made, expanding the type of beneficiaries to include print and digital press. The total budget allocation was €1,500,000, and a total of 50 companies submitted their applications:

MODALITY	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	ALLOCATION
Radio	6	€500,000
Television	15	€250,000
Press	29	€750,000
TOTAL	50	€1,500,000

In the next announcement (2016), the budget allocation was increased to €2,300,000, distributed among four modalities, bearing in mind the number of companies that had submitted applications in the second quarter of 2015:

MODALITY	NUMBER OF COMPANIES	ALLOCATION
Radio	10	€500,000
Television	16	€300,000
Print press	30	€750,000
Digital press	42	€750,000
TOTAL	98	€2,300,000

The budget allocation of this line of grants to media companies for 2017 is €2,800,000.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 1

With regard to cultural activities and facilities—especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technologies—the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:

a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;

b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;

e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;

f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;

g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;

h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.

The basic goal of the Valencian Government's cultural policy is to transform Valencia's current cultural ecosystem to contribute to changing the production model. This transformation involves improving citizens' cultural rights: expression, participation, and construction of individual and collective identities. These strategic objectives follow the recommendations, guidelines and considerations of international institutions such as the European Commission, the OECD and the UNESCO on the relation between cultural and creative sectors and the development of regions.

Valencia's Cultural Strategic Plan, **Fes Cultura**, the framework for a new cultural policy, sets forth specific objectives that also depend on institutional participation and cooperation, as well as on Valencia's own cultural and creative sectors themselves: enabling households to once again spend on culture; increasing the budget for cultural goods and services by €200,000,000; creating 8,000 to 10,000 jobs in cultural and creative sectors; increasing the number of cultural companies; reaching Spain's average indicators for reading (adding an extra 200,000 readers); generating social interest in Valencia's museums (going from 4.8 million visitors to 6 million); reaching the number of 2 million theatre-goers a year; resuming audiovisual production; etc.

Several plans and actions were launched during the 2015-2016 period to implement Fes Cultura. In 2015, the Code of Best Practice was presented. In early 2016, a specific plan was launched for promoting reading and for the industrialization of

Valencia's book sector. Readers, teachers, librarians, publishers, booksellers, authors, illustrators, media outlets, cultural managers and the public administration all participated in this plan in different discussion groups. A plan was also launched to promote the Valencian cultural industry in international markets, fairs and festivals. During 2016, different sector-based plans stemmed from the Valencian Government's Valencian Culture Bureau, a space for participation and dialogue with Valencia's different cultural and creative sectors. The Bureau's work will serve to determine the procedures for contributing to the new rules and terms to be drafted by the public administration.

A very significant portion of Valencia's cultural activity has Valencian as its vehicular language, and this is also the language of communication between cultural agents and the general public, through the websites of museums, culture institutes, theatres, etc., and the language of the activities' promotional materials (leaflets, magazines, catalogues, etc.).

As for programming in Valencian in publicly owned theatres, we distinguish between amateur and professional performances, by theatre:

TEATRO PRINCIPAL I AUDITORI DE CASTELLÓ			
YEAR	AMATEUR	PROFESSIONAL	TOTAL
2014	3	0	3
2015	1	1	2
2016	1	21	22

TEATRO PRINCIPAL I RIALTO DE VALÈNCIA	
YEAR	SHOWS AND CONCERTS
2014	13
2015	63
2016	93

The Valencian Culture Institute also is the home of the Valencian Film Library (*Filmoteca Valenciana*), which has provided the following information on the screening of films in Valencian:

FILM LIBRARY			
YEAR	SALA LUIS G. BERLANGA. VALENCIA	PARANIMF. UNIVERSITAT JAUME I. CASTELLÓN	SALA ARNICHES. ALICANTE
2014	6	0	0
2015	7	2	0
2016	8	4	2

The Deputy Directorate-General for Books, Archives and Libraries has implemented two types of actions involving the use of Valencian in its services and products. On the one hand, the Valencian Online Archive System uses Valencian in its user interface, including tags for fields, control lists, indices, and entry and search forms. On the other, grants are offered annually for publishing print and digital books in Valencia, with particular focus on works published in Valencian.

Thus, Order 84/2016, of 12 December, of the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport, established the terms and conditions for awarding grants for print publishing. And in the corresponding announcement, 200,000 euros were allocated to this grant line, 60% of which are for publishing in Valencian.

In line with this, Order 75/2016, of 29 November, of the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport, established the terms and conditions for awarding grants for digital book publishing.

The corresponding announcement set forth the financial allocation for this grant line.

Promotion activities, using Valencian as a vehicular language, serve to foster reading habits in libraries: book clubs, literary festivals, recitals, talks, exhibitions, etc.

Likewise, the magazine *Lletres valencianes* publishes literary news, with reviews in Castilian and in Valencian. Its aim is to create a community of readers of Valencian publications and customers of Valencian bookshops. The magazine talks about the most significant books, in cultural and artistic terms, published by Valencian publishers, and seeks to become a catalogue of reference for the Valencian publishing industry.

Moreover, the Directorate-General for Language Policy and Multilingualism Management also carries out actions involving culture, where the presence of Valencian is closely linked to some of its expressions, especially in those that are more traditional. Thus, grants are annually awarded in the sphere of festivals, aimed at promoting the use of Valencian in books about festivals, in particularly those festivals that are most deeply rooted and widespread: the *Fallas*, the *Magdalena*, the *Hogueras*, and the *Moros y Cristianos*.

EVOLUTION OF THE BUDGET ALLOCATED TO THE CULTURE SECTOR		
2014	2015	2016
€60,000	€60,000	€97,750

Under this same policy of grants to foster the use of Valencian, grants are awarded annually in the local sphere (municipalities, associations of municipalities and other smaller forms of local government): Order 65/2016, of 18 October, of the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport, approved the terms and conditions of the procedure for awarding grants in municipalities, associations of municipalities and other smaller forms of local government in the Valencian Community and in El Carxe which carry out activities to promote the use of the Valencian language.

Possible beneficiaries of these grants may apply for them for different activities: posters and signage, courses, language volunteership, language reception, cultural activities, awareness-raising campaigns, operation of municipal offices for the promotion of Valencian, use of Valencian on the internet, etc. In the table we can see the sharp rise in the budget for this grant line, which is so important for the social promotion of Valencian, because local administrations—and, more specifically, town councils—are the closest to the citizens:

BUDGET EVOLUTION		
2014	2015	2016
€100,000	€100,000	€1,000,000

In fact, town councils are genuine cultural agents; therefore, since 2015 the grants have included the specific programme of cultural activities, to which €250,000 were allocated in 2016.

Within the organizational structure of town councils, the presence of municipal offices for the promotion of Valencian is very important, because they are responsible for organizing and coordinating all of the activities involving translation, awareness-raising, dynamization, fostering the use of Valencian, and teaching Valencian to adults. These

offices, moreover, collaborate closely with the JQCV in disseminating information about its examinations: registration periods, schedule, examination centres, etc.

Given the importance of these services, the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport has signed a collaboration agreement on language normalization with most local bodies that have this type of offices. In addition to the Valencian Academy of Language, approximately 80 town councils, as well as provincial councils and the Valencian Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FVMP) have signed the agreement. In the last two years, the town councils of Xàtiva, Puçol, l'Eliana, Guardamar de Segura, and Valencia have also signed the agreement.

The FVMP is also the beneficiary of a nominative grant, thanks to which activities in Valencian can reach very small or resource-deprived entities. There has also been an increase in the budget allocation for this direct grants:

FVPM		
2014	2015	2016
€18,000	€18,000	€30,000

Collaboration with other institutions and entities to promote activities that promote the use of Valencian is not limited to financial assistance, and involves the joint organization of cultural activities. In collaboration with town councils and *Fallas* committees, the travelling exhibition on the book on the *Fallas* has been seen throughout Valencia and, for the first time, it has gone beyond its borders and reached the city of Barcelona, where its showing at the *Casa de València* was covered in the C33 programme *Tria 33*:

<http://www.ccma.cat/tv3/alacarta/tria33/el-llibret-de-falla-un-recorregut-per-la-festa-valenciana/video/5625699/>

During the conference on multilingualism that was held on 14-15 May at the Centre del Carme in Valencia, different activities were carried out: One of these activities was the presentation of the Tree of Languages, a joint work of the Department and Valencia City Council, under the direction of sculptress Monique Bastiaans. The work sought to advocate the wealth involved in language diversity, and at the same time wanted to be a Valencian Government tribute to Ramon Llull, whose official year was commemorated in 2016.

Also noteworthy is the fact that in 2011 the Valencian Government started commemorating the European Day of Languages, which is celebrated every year on September 26. In 2016, this commemoration included comprehensive training and leisure activities, with the participation of 1,000 5th-grade Primary School students, and nearly 200 language teachers. All of these activities took place in the gardens of the Department of Education, Research, Culture and Sport. During the first part of the celebrations, the students participated in workshops on the European Language Portfolio and on sign language (among other topics), and enjoyed a concert in Valencian. At the same time, a training session was aimed at language teachers, with the participation of experts on multilingualism and intergenerational language transmission; they were able to share best practices in programmes such as eTwinning, and analyse in detail the components of the European Language Portfolio. During the second part of the celebrations, the President of the Valencian Government inaugurated the sculpture "L'Arbre de les Llengües" ("The Tree of Languages") at its definitive location at the Department headquarters.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1

With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:

a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;

b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;

a. to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;

This is precisely part of the mandate of the Office of Language Rights, which has been described in the section dedicated to Article 10. It is worth recalling here, because one of the responsibilities of the Office will be, precisely, arbitration between private companies and individuals whose language rights have been violated by said companies. The Office's mediation role will be indispensable for promoting best practices in the management of language diversity and respect for people's rights.

In the Autonomous Community of Valencia there is no legislation in the area of economic and social activities that limits the use of Valencian. Quite the opposite, the Act on the Use and Teaching of Valencia, in Articles 2, 3, 4, 5 and 17, sets forth that no one in the Valencian Community may be discriminated for using Valencian in their public or private relations, and that they are even entitled to carry out their professional, commercial, labour-related, trade union-related, religious, recreational and artistic activities in Valencian.

d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs

The 2015 survey on the knowledge and use of the Valencian language, which was mentioned earlier, includes specific data on the social use of Valencian in the predominantly Valencian-speaking zone, in the following areas of communication:

a) At home

40.5% speak Valencian "at home"; 23.6% "always" speak Valencian, and 45.8% only speak Castilian at home. 3.2% speak "other languages".

Language spoken at home %	2015
Always Valencian	23.6
Generally Valencian	5.5
More Valencian than Castilian	2.0
Interchangeably Valencian and Castilian	9.4
More Castilian than Valencian	2.8
Generally Castilian	7.7
Always Castilian	45.8
Other languages	3.2
DK/NA	0.0
Predominantly Valencian	31.1
Predominantly Castilian	56.3

b) With friends

In relations with friends, Valencian is, generally, more widely used than at home: 43.9% (3.4% more). In contrast, the percentage of people exclusively speaking Castilian with friends is 6.9% lower than this use at home. We also observe that the “interchangeable” use of Valencian and Castilian among friends (15.6%) is clearly higher than this use “at home”.

Language spoken with friends %	2015
Always Valencian	17.7
Generally Valencian	7.3
More Valencian than Castilian	3.2
Interchangeably Valencian and Castilian	15.6
More Castilian than Valencian	1.7
Generally Castilian	8.3
Always Castilian	43.4
Other languages	1.7
DK/NA	43.9
Predominantly Valencian	28.2

c) At work

At work, Valencian is used with different frequencies by 21.7% in internal relations; 41.7% only use Castilian. In external relations, Valencian is generally used at the same level as in internal relations, but fewer people only use Valencian (21.7% - 18.26%). Similarly, albeit to a lesser extent, the number of people speaking only in Castilian in internal work relations is higher than in external relations (41.7% - 38.8%).

Language spoken in internal relations %	2015
Always Valencian	11.21
Generally Valencian	7.55
More Valencian than Castilian	2.99
Interchangeably Valencian and Castilian	21.84
More Castilian than Valencian	3.20
Generally Castilian	8.64
Always Castilian	41.66
Other languages	1.30
DK/NA	0.29
Does not have work relations	1.31
Predominantly Valencian	21.70
Predominantly Castilian	53.50

d) In traditional shops and in large retail stores

As for commercial relations, the use of Valencian in traditional shops, on the one hand, and in large retail stores, on the other, has been considered. Levels of use in this regard are fairly unequal. Whereas the total frequency of use of Valencian in traditional shops is 39.5%, in large retail stores its use drops to 30.5%. The exclusive use of Castilian rises from 46.9% in traditional shops to 53.3% in large retail stores. The more fragmented and impersonal nature of relationships in each of these situation largely determines this variation.

Language spoken in traditional shops %	2015
Always Valencian	17.8
Generally Valencian	5.6
More Valencian than Castilian	2.7

Interchangeably Valencian and Castilian	13.3
More Castilian than Valencian	2.9
Generally Castilian	10.1
Always Castilian	46.9
Other languages	0.5
DK/NA	39.5
Predominantly Valencian	26.2
Predominantly Castilian	59.9

Language spoken in large retail stores %	2015
Always Valencian	10.0
Generally Valencian	5.0
More Valencian than Castilian	2.6
Interchangeably Valencian and Castilian	12.9
More Castilian than Valencian	3.3
Generally Castilian	12.1
Always Castilian	53.3
Other languages	0.5
DK/NA	30.5
Predominantly Valencian	17.6
Predominantly Castilian	68.8

The Valencian Government's increasing commitment to the steady normalization of Valencian, both in its institutional use and in its social and economic promotion is expressed in the Valencian Government's budget for promoting Valencian and managing multilingualism.

BUDGETS 2014 - 2016	
2014	€4,778,730
2015	€6,456,750
2016	€13,091,070

Through budget headings II and IV (purchase of goods and current expenditure and current transfers), highly satisfactory collaboration has been achieved with civic and social entities and associations, some of which are deeply rooted in society, such as the Red Cross.

In heading II, one of the Directorate-General's lines of work has been collaboration, through sponsoring activities, inserting advertising or organizing events, with publishers, associations and institutions that foster the use of Valencian in order to offer the greatest possible number of products in Valencian: books, research journals, records, lectures, sports activities, conferences, seminars, and concerts, just to name a few, aimed at offering more and more varied leisure activities in Valencian. A total of 8 collaborations have taken place in 2016, with a total budget allocation of €15,000.

In heading IV, two types of assistance can be distinguished: assistance awarded by competitive tendering (grants), and nominative or direct assistance, established via a collaboration agreement. The former include several budget lines aimed at fostering and promoting Valencian in different areas and sectors. The line with the closest relation to the content of this Article is that aimed at promoting Valencian and individual projects that foster multilingualism in the social sphere. Its budget has evolved as follows:

2014-2016	
2014 LINE T0091000	€100,000

2015 LINE T0091000	€100,000
2016 LINE S0091000	€1,100,000
2017 LINE S0091000	€1,940,000

The beneficiaries of this assistance are not-for-profit civic associations, trade unions, professional associations, as well as universities and university networks (which have been mentioned in Article 8). The increase in application is a sign of the popularity of the budget increase, which has been a relief for many smaller entities that have, accordingly, been able to continue their activities to promote Valencian:

YEARS 2014-2016	
2014	89
2015	81
2016	119

With regard to nominative or direct assistance, the section referring to Article 12 mentioned the agreement signed between the Department and the Valencian Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (€30,000). In addition to this agreement, others have been signed with entities whose activity has a direct impact on vulnerable social sectors, namely the above-mentioned agreement with the Red Cross, and the agreement with Fesord (Federation of Deaf Persons).

One of the actions to be implemented by the Directorate-General in the 2015-2019 period is the creation of the Seal of Language Quality for the business sector. This sector-based action falls under the financial assistance offered to different social sectors with the two-fold aim of promoting Valencian and of fostering multilingualism in Valencian society. This Seal of Quality shall be awarded, starting in 2017, to outstanding companies in the promotion of Valencian, to foster multilingualism.

The principle underlying this project is that of corporate social responsibility: a commitment to citizens going over and above the strictly legislative level, and deeply rooted in best practices and in business ethics.

As can be observed, this Seal has been designed using a cross-cutting approach, by different Valencian Government Departments, but with the shared goal of promoting language diversity as an added value in the world of business, where promoting Valencian and fostering multilingualism increases the quality of products and services, boosts competitiveness among companies, and contributes to their international projection. The budget allocation for this project is €1,000,000.

Paragraph 2.

With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:

a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;

b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;

Article 16 of the Act on the Use and Teaching of Valencian sets forth that “Public companies and services and those directly dependent on the Administration must ensure that their employees who address the public directly have a sufficient knowledge of Valencian to provide the normal service expected of them”.

c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;

d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;

Without prejudice to the application of national legislation on the subject (instructions, data, labelling, etc.), it should be noted that most of the safety instructions expressed in the Autonomous Community, especially in government offices, are in Valencian.

BASQUE IN THE BASQUE COUNTRY

BACKGROUND AND GENERAL ISSUES

NEW LEGAL DEVELOPMENTS AND DEMOGRAPHIC DATA

In the previous period there was significant production of new legal texts in the areas of normalization and rights regarding the use of the Basque language, whereas this period has focused on the implementation of the provisions contained in the laws in force.

Especially noteworthy, given its provisions regarding the attribution of powers to municipalities in the sphere of normalizing the use of Basque, is Act 2/2016, of 7 April, on Local Institutions of the Basque Country (Official Gazette of the Basque Country, or BOPV, No. 70, 14 April 2016). This Act “sets forth in an explicit, crucial and direct manner that municipalities shall have powers regarding Basque, in the field of planning its use and its normalization, both ad extra, i.e. for its territorial scope of action, and ad intra, i.e. for its articulation in the local entity itself.”

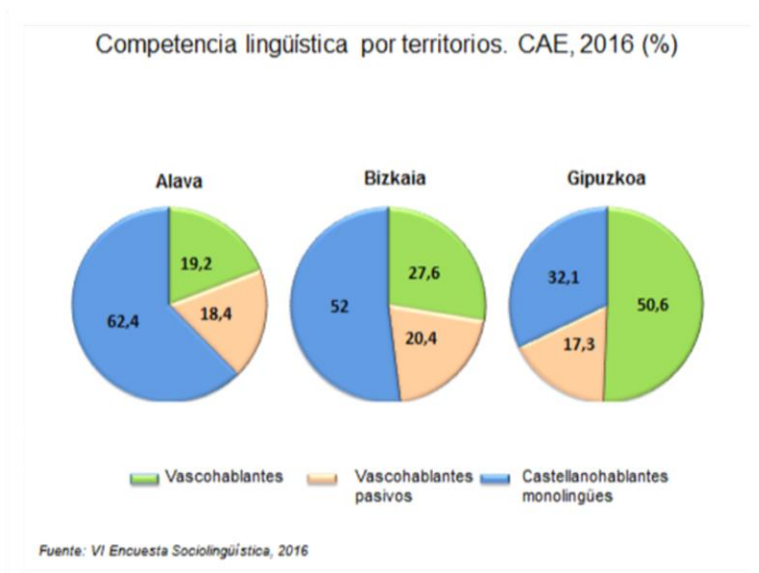
It is also worth highlighting the fact that, pursuant to the rules setting forth the scheme for normalizing the use of Basque in the framework of the drafting process of the Basque Government’s general provisions, the Deputy Regional Department for Language Policy has issued 439 reports during this period (93 in 2013; 129 in 2014; 131 in 2015; 86 in 2016), and has contributed to the processing of the same number of general regulatory provisions. As a result of this and of the cross-cutting nature of normalization of language use throughout the Basque Government’s policy areas, there are many legal texts that do not fall under the scope of language rights but do incorporate specific provisions that envisage such rights.

As regards the Basque Country’s sociolinguistic situation, it is worth highlighting the following data provided by the 2016 6th Sociolinguistic Survey:

33.9% of the population of the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country, aged 16 or older, are Basque speakers; 19.1% are passive Basque speakers, and 47% are monolingual Castilian speakers.

There are notable differences between the Basque Country's three territories (provinces): Half of the population of Gipuzkoa are Basque speakers (50%), whereas in Bizkaia slightly more than a quarter of the population are Basque speakers (27.6%). Lastly, one fifth of the population of Araba are Basque speakers (19.2%).

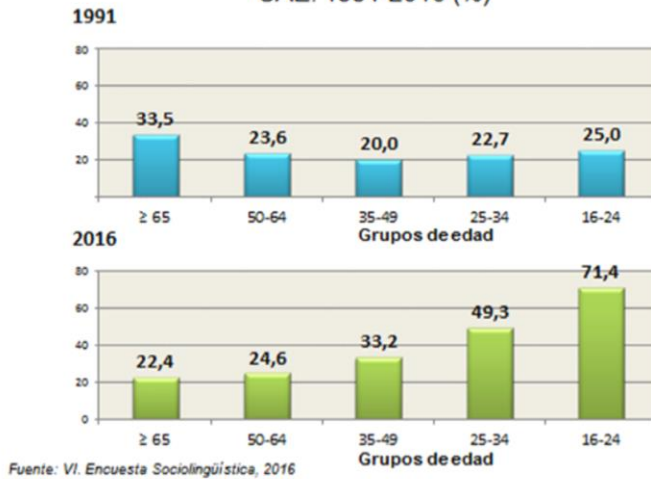
The three capital cities have a smaller percentage of Basque speakers than that of their respective territories. Thus, the Basque speakers in San Sebastián are 35.4%, in Bilbao they are 18.6%, and in Vitoria, 17.9%.



As regards the evolution in these past 25 years, in 2016 the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country has 212,000 more Basque speakers than in 1991. The number of Basque speakers has increased by nearly 10 percentage points (from 24.1% in 1991, to 33.9% in 2016). Likewise, the number of passive Basque speakers has risen by nearly 11 percentage points in these 25 years (from 8.5% to 19.2%). The number of monolingual Castilian speakers, on the other hand, has dropped by 12 percentage points (from 59.2% in 1991, to 47% in 2016).

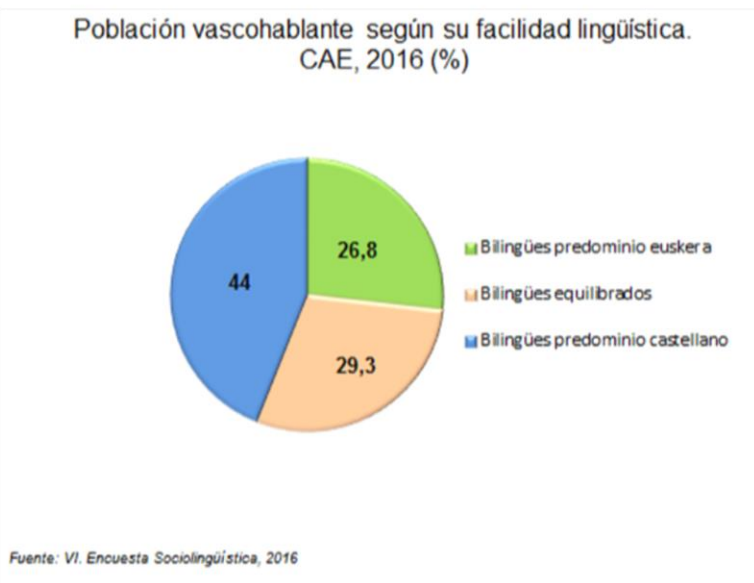
As for the age of the Basque speakers, the greatest increase was among those under 35, i.e. in the 16-24 and the 25-34 age groups. However, the increase in the number of Basque speakers among those under 65 took place in all of the age groups. Moreover, this is nothing new, because it has happened throughout these past 25 years, but it is more evident among the youngest. Thus, today the Basque speakers in the 16-24 age group are 71.4%, whereas in 1991 they were 25%.

Evolución de la población vascohablante por grupos de edad.
CAE. 1991-2016 (%)



26.8% of the Basque speakers aged 16 or older find it easier to express themselves in Basque than in Castilian; they are called predominantly Basque-speaking bilinguals. However, the highest percentage of predominantly Basque-speaking bilinguals can be found in the over-65 age group (44.8%), and the lowest (20.2%) in the 35-49 age group. Gipuzkoa has the highest percentage (35.9%) and Araba the lowest (6.7%) percentage of predominantly Basque-speaking bilinguals, whereas Bilbao has 20.4%.

Población vascohablante según su facilidad lingüística.
CAE, 2016 (%)



17.5% of the Basque Country's population aged 16 or older acquired only Basque at home, whereas 6% acquired Basque and Castilian. In turn, three out of four (76.4%) only acquired another language.

ACTION PLAN FOR THE PROMOTION OF BASQUE

55. In accordance with the information provided in the fourth periodic report, it has been observed that certain language policy and planning tools have been of considerable importance. One such tool is the 1998 General Plan for the Promotion of the Use of Basque and the reflection and debate process known as Euskara 21 [Basque 21], whose recommendations were used in designing said General Plan, which was ratified by the Basque Parliament in 2013. Euskara 21 sets forth a 2012-

2022 planning period. Moreover, in addition to the initial measure that had to be implemented during the first year of the Plan (2013), it also provides for a mid-term evaluation in 2017 and a final evaluation in 2022.

58. The Committee of Experts welcomes the efforts made to encourage the use of the Basque language and asks the authorities to provide additional information about the conclusions to be drawn from these findings.

Article 7. Objectives and Principles

Basque in the Basque Country

106. According to the fourth periodical report, a Plan of Action for the promotion of Basque (ESEP) was approved by the Plenum of the Basque Language Advisory Council and the Basque Government Council in 2012, and ratified by the Basque Parliament in 2013.

107. The Committee of Experts asks the Spanish authorities to provide information about the Plan of Action for the promotion of Basque in the next periodical report.

In response to these two requests from the Committee of Experts, the following is the description of the ground covered by the **Action Plan for the Promotion of Basque (ESEP)**:

On 11 September 2013, the Basque Parliament ratified the ESEP, and considered it necessary to carry out the work set forth in the Basque Language Advisory Council's work programme, as regards the intensification and supplementation of the ESEP diagnosis and indicators. The Basque Language Advisory Council defined the tasks of the Euskara 21 Special Commission, which set forth precisely the following: *"intensifying and supplementing the diagnosis included in the ESEP, on the basis of the knowledge available today in each of the areas. The aim is, of course, to provide the ESEP with a solid base for its development during the coming years."*

The SWOT document supplementing the ESEP's diagnosis was drafted in 2014 and submitted to the Plenary of the Basque Language Advisory Council at its 1 December 2014 session, thus complying with the commitment made. The document describes the results relating to the analyses of the ESEP's three strategic objectives and to one of its cross-cutting lines. To analyse the three strategic objectives (Basque language competence and acquisition, use and quality), the information used was that included in the diagnosis set forth for 2013 by the ESEP itself, for the sphere of the Basque Government.

The SWOT document was published in 2015, together with the measures of the Plan approved in 2012 (pages 111-188). It is attached hereto.

http://www.euskara.euskadi.eus/contenidos/informacion/7041/es_2447/adjuntos/ESEP_es_2015.pdf

To analyse the cross-cutting line about motives and attitudes, in addition to the above-mentioned diagnosis, what was used was the analysis of the basic discourse on the Basque language (forum, Delphi, contributions by experts, etc.), promoted by the Basque Language Advisory Council itself.

http://www.euskadi.eus/contenidos/informacion/20132016legealdiko_dokumentuak/es_def/adjuntos/egod_es.pdf

APPLICATION OF THE CHARTER

Article 7. Objectives and principles

Paragraph 1

In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:

- a. the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;***
- b. the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;***
- c. the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;***
- d. the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;***
- e. the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;***
- f. the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;***
- g. the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;***
- h. the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;***
- i. the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.***

The language use policy implemented by the public institutions—which has been reflected in the educational system, in the media, in the public administration, in cultural production, in teaching adults Basque language or Basque literacy, etc.— has resulted in a significant advance of Basque in Autonomous Community of the Basque Country. This advance amounts to a steady, uninterrupted growth of 0.5 points per year in the last 30 years, which makes the case of the growth of Basque in the Basque Autonomous Community one of the most advanced examples in Europe.

The measures adopted by the public administrations have been decisive in meeting the objectives set forth in Art. 7 of the Charter: the recognition of Basque as an expression of cultural wealth; the resolute action to promote Basque, the encouragement of its use in speech and writing in public and private life; the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of Basque at all appropriate stages; the promotion of study and research on Basque, etc.

Always bearing in mind the principle of seeking the greatest possible political and social consensus, valuable tools for planning public language use policies have been designed and implemented. Noteworthy among these instruments are the General Plan for the Promotion of Basque (EBPN, its Basque acronym), approved in 1998, and the Action Plan for the Promotion of Basque (ESEP), drafted in 2012 by the Basque

Language Advisory Council and ratified by the Basque Government on 11 September 2013.

In this regard, its reflections and papers produced by the Basque Language Advisory Council in recent years are worth noting:

- The SWOT Document, supplementing the ESEP diagnosis, was drafted throughout 2014. To analyse the three strategic objectives (Basque language competence and acquisition, use and quality), the information used was that included in the diagnosis set forth for 2013 by the ESEP itself, for the sphere of the Basque Government.
- Analysis of Basic Discourse on Basque (EGOD, its Basque acronym): analysis of the cross-cutting line about motives and attitudes included in the ESEP Plan. This report also includes the document Foundations of a common ground for a shared discourse on Basque.
- Document "What Next?". Once the SWOT was approved, the Euskara 21 Commission requested the Deputy Regional Policy for Language Policy to draft a document stating the main priorities and the social and political bases to bear in mind during the forthcoming years in order to advance on the path of strengthening the revitalization of Basque. In response to that request, a document called "What Next?" was drafted and then submitted to the members of the Commission, as well as to many social agents. After fruitful, in-depth debate in July 2016, the definitive document was published.

As for Art. 7.1.b and 7.1.e of the Charter, we must state that, as regards relations between the Basque Government and the Government of the Autonomous Community of Navarre, collaboration in this new period is fortunately smooth and successful. The two Governments are working together on common projects, such as a system of indicators, a sociolinguistic survey, and technical committees in different sectors.

Work has been done for years towards achieving a stable collaboration agreement with the Navarre Government in the sphere of Basque.

On 5 July 2012, the Head of the Basque Government's Culture Department and the Head of the Navarre Government's Education Department signed a specific Collaboration Agreement between the Basque Government's Deputy Department for Language Policy and the Navarre Government's Euskarabidea (Navarre Institute of Basque).

On 8 May 2013, representatives from Euskarabidea and from the Basque Deputy Department for Language Policy held a meeting to study the situation of the different areas for collaboration set forth in the Agreement. At said meeting it was decided to launch working groups for the different areas, aimed at reactivating work in the collaboration areas set forth in the Agreement. The Agreement signed by the Basque Government and the Navarre Government does not set forth any grant contributions whatsoever.

As stated above, in these past years our relations and collaboration has become strengthened and we are working together on important projects, such as the Sociolinguistic Survey and the System of Indicators for Basque.

As for Art. 7.1.b and 7.1.i of the Charter, and with regard to the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, we must also state that relations between the Basque Government and France's Public Office for the Basque Language is becoming increasingly stable and consolidated. Proof of this is the fact that the third Framework Agreement between these two institutions is to be renewed in 2017, for a period of 6 years. On the basis of this Agreement, a collaboration fund is set up annually, with financial contributions from the two parties. As set forth in said

Framework Agreement, this fund is used to subsidize the work of private agents in the French Basque Country.

Also with regard to Art. 7.1.e of the Charter, it is considered extremely important to strengthen collaboration ties with the Governments of Spain's Autonomous Communities that have their own regional languages. These ties are fully in line with Spain's multilingual reality. (For more information, see the section on Article 14 - Transfrontier exchanges).

In this regard we must note that processing is currently under way for the integration and accession of the Government of the Autonomous Community of Navarre and of the Government of the Autonomous Community of Valencia to the Collaboration Protocol which is shared by the Basque Government, the Government of the Autonomous Community of Galicia, and the Government of the Autonomous Community of Catalonia since 2007, and by the Government of the Autonomous Community of the Balearic Islands since 2008.

In the 2013-2016 period, meetings and exchanges have continued to take place among all these Governments:

- On 15 October 2013, in Santiago de Compostela
- On 18 June 2015, in Bilbao
- On 4 April 2017, in Santiago de Compostela

At this last meeting, the applications of the above-mentioned Governments of Navarre and Valencia for accession to the Protocol were approved.

In this period, we must also highlight a joint project which was born in 2015: *The Map of learning centres for our languages in Spain*



As for Art. 7.3, it must be noted that the language policy promoted by public institutions is firmly committed to respect, understanding and tolerance for all the languages and

especially for those that are most disadvantaged, both in their educational system and in the media.

The Basque Government resulting from the 2016 elections included among the objectives of its Government Programme for the 11th Term of Parliament (2017-2020), and under the heading “human and cultural development for coexistence: Basque and language coexistence”, that of strengthening the broadest possible social and political consensus on Basque and language coexistence.

In this regard, the Basque Government is committed to continuing working together with Spain’s other languages in the line advocated in the Manifesto for the recognition and development of Spain’s language diversity, presented in Valencia in November 2015, at the Multidisciplinary Seminar on Multilingualism in Spain.

Article 8 – Education

1. With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

This has been widely implemented since 1983-84:

As a result of the official status of the Basque language, Act 10/1982, the Basic Act on the Normalization of the Use of Basque, recognizes a series of language rights relating to education.

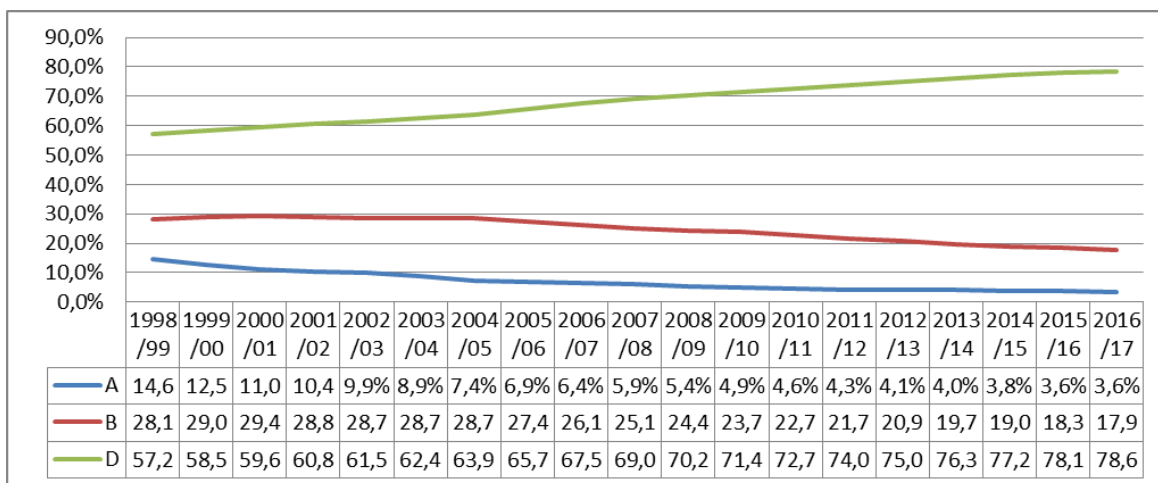
Moreover, Act 1/1993, of 19 February, on Basque Public Schools, in Art. 3.2.g) states as one of the purposes of Basque public schools that of guaranteeing for all pupils, on an equal footing, practical knowledge of both official languages at the end of the compulsory education stage, thus promoting the use of Basque and contributing to its normalization. Additional Provision Ten defines the language model applicable to the entire education system, both public and private:

- Model A, in which the syllabus is basically taught in Castilian, and certain activities or topics within it may be taught in Basque.
- Model B, in which the syllabus is taught in Basque and in Castilian.
- Model D, in which the syllabus is taught in Basque, with Castilian language as a subject.

In all three models, Castilian language and literature, Basque language and literature, and modern languages are primarily taught in their respective languages.

Nowadays, **model D is prevalent in Early Years Education**, with approximately 90,000 children enrolled. Below, we present two graphs of the evolution of enrolment in Pre-school and Early Years Education by education model, from 1998-99 to 2016-17:

a) Early Years Education. Distribution of pupils by model: 1998-99 / 2016-17

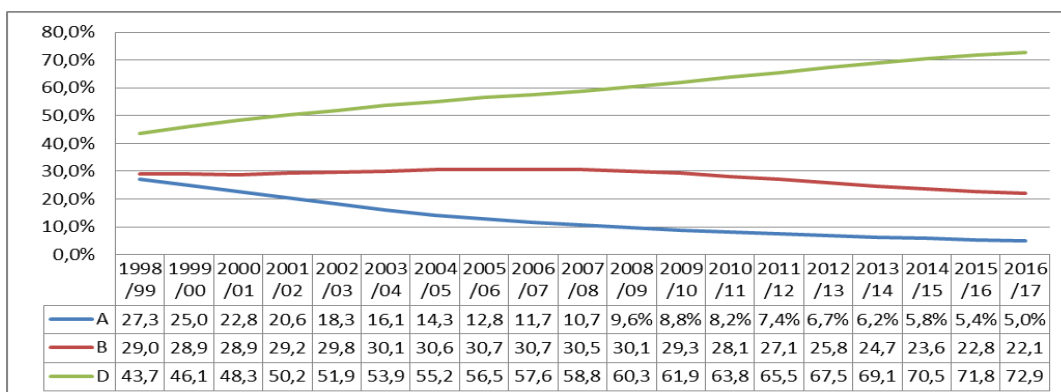


b i to make available primary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

This is being achieved extensively, and increasingly, since 1983.

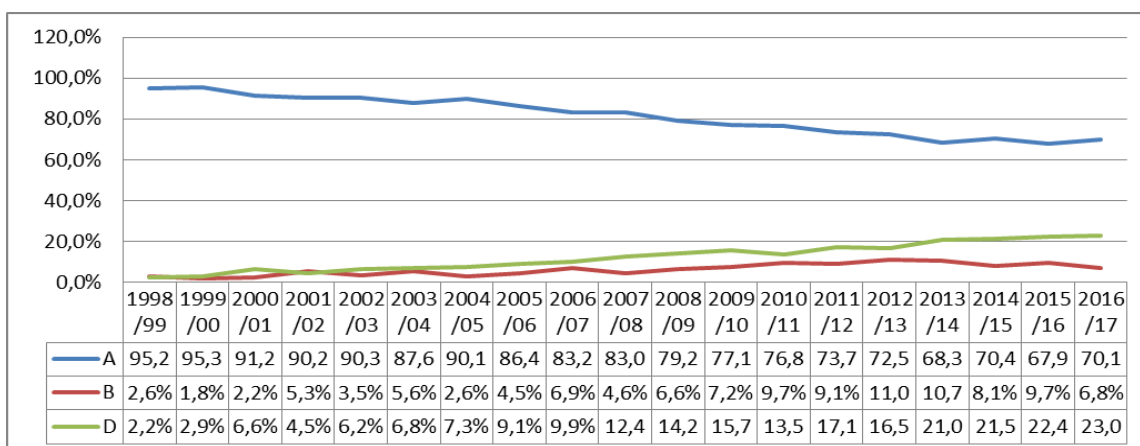
Nowadays, **model D is prevalent** among the approximately 129,000 pupils enrolled in Primary Education. Below, we present two graphs of the evolution of enrolment in Primary Education by education model, from 1998-99 to 2016-17 (%):

a) Primary Education. Distribution of pupils by model: 1998-99 / 2016-17



The above data include 99.6% of the pupils in Primary Education. However, it is also appropriate to include in this description the data on enrolment and evolution that has been seen among Primary Education pupils who have Special Educational Needs (SEN).

b) Pupils with Special Educational Needs 1998-1999 / 2016-2017 (Primary Education)



Most pupils with Special Educational Needs are in model A, although this model is gradually losing its predominance in favour of model D, as can be seen in the graph.

c i: to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

This is being steadily achieved; in the academic year 2016-2017 (September enrolment data), education given primarily in Basque (**model D**) has reached the following percentages:

- Model D:

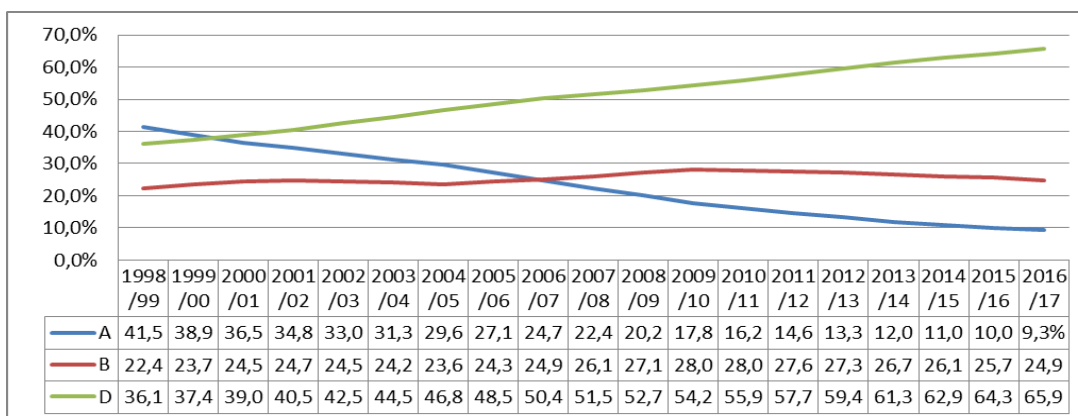
Compulsory Secondary Education: 65.9% / Post-compulsory Secondary Education: 62.2%

- Model B:

Compulsory Secondary Education: 24.9% / Post-compulsory Secondary Education: 3.8%

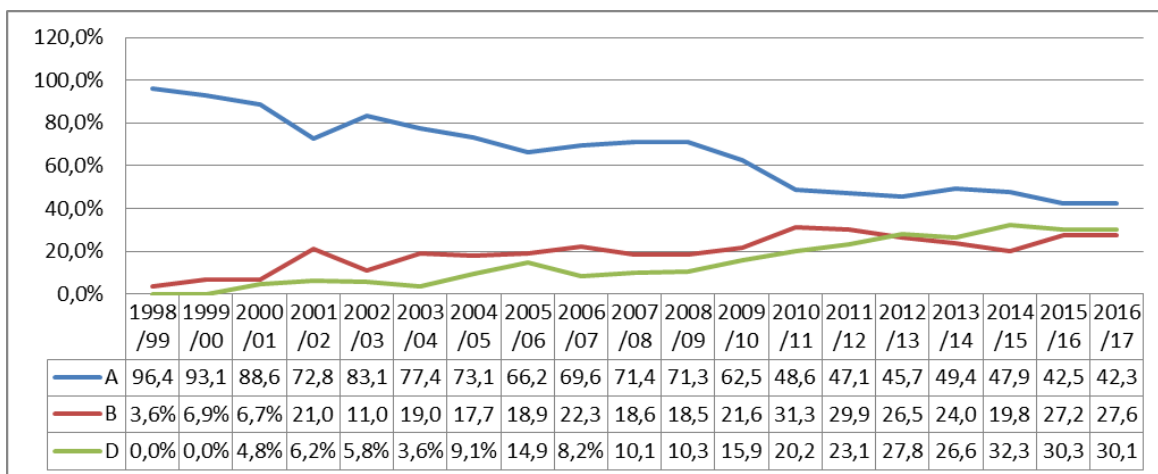
This means that the demand for Secondary Education in Basque is higher than the demand for Secondary Education in Castilian. Below, we present the evolution of enrolment in Compulsory Secondary Education by model, from 1998-99 to 2016-17 for the more than 80,000 pupils enrolled in Compulsory Secondary Education:

a) Compulsory Secondary Education. Distribution of pupils by model: 1998-99 / 2016-17



Similarly to what was expressed with regard to the pupils in Primary Education, here in Compulsory Secondary Education we also want to show additional sensitivity towards pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN). The total population of pupils in Compulsory Secondary Education with Special Educational Needs is approximately 300, accounting for 0.39% of all pupils in Compulsory Secondary Education.

b) Pupils with Special Educational Needs 2012-2013 / 2016-2017 (Compulsory Secondary Education)

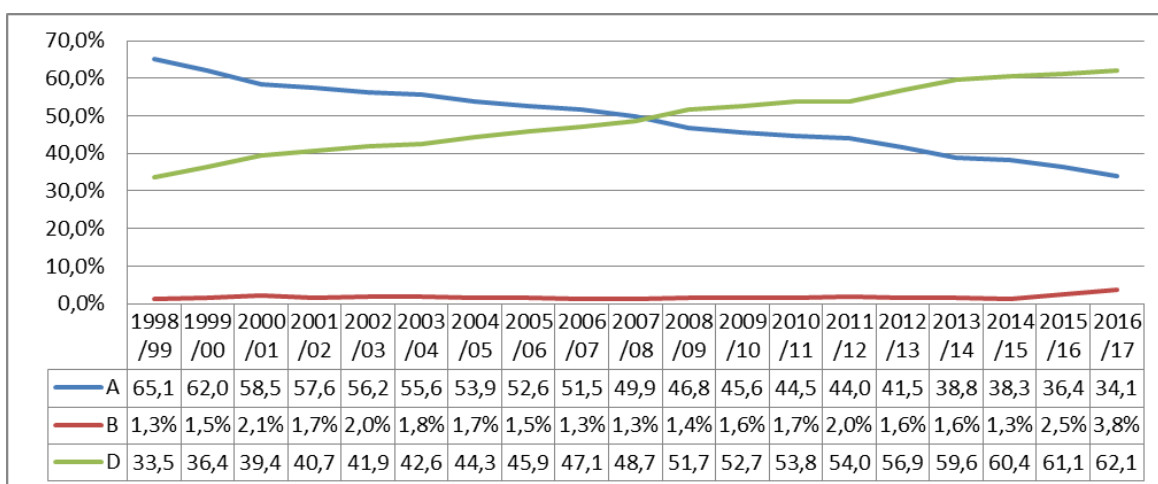


Similarly to what was observed in the data on enrolment in Primary Education, in Compulsory Secondary Education it can also be seen that, even though the percentage of pupils still choosing language model A is significant (42.3%), the trend is for parents and guardians to increasingly enrol their children with Special Educational Needs in model D.

This progression must be underlined as an achievement from the standpoint of integration in school and in the context of pupils with Special Educational Needs. At the same time, it must be seen as a challenge in terms of improvement for the educational administration and for the normalization of language use, because it requires the educational administration, education professionals, and specialists in Special Education to produce, validate and adapt teaching materials to Basque.

As can be observed in the following tables, even in Post-compulsory Secondary Education—where model A has traditionally been prevalent—model D has become the majority option for the 30,000 pupils in this educational stage.

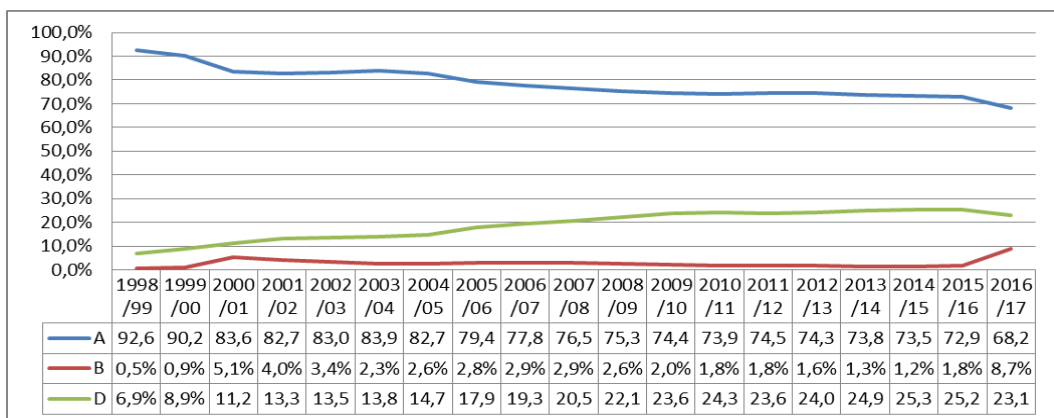
c) Pupils in Post-compulsory Secondary Education (1998/1999 - 2016/2017)



d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

Admittedly, the coverage of technical and vocational education in Basque is less than in other educational stages. The evolution of enrolment data shows a slight upward trend in bilingual models B and D, to the detriment of the majority option for model A.

b) Pupils in Vocational Training Cycles (1998/1999 - 2016/2017)



Offering a great variety of technical subjects in Basque is no easy task. Forming groups exclusively in model D is also complex. Therefore, it needs to be underlined that model B also offers the possibility of expanding the range of bilingual offer. The recent regulation of this model in Vocational Training has opened up new perspectives for this modality of bilingual education. This can be seen in the increase that has taken place in academic year 2016-2017.

Vocational Training provides students with the general skills and the theoretical vocational knowledge for performing technical and professional work. This educational stage guarantees that students are ready to directly enter the workforce, and has renowned prestige (OECD, 2012). Even though technical and vocational education is envisaged and guaranteed, it is also a challenge in terms of improvement for the educational administration and for education professionals.

Measures aimed at promoting the acquisition of language at all stages of Compulsory Education:

I. Promotion of the use of Basque inside and outside the classroom and in the school environment. Ulibarri Programme

The Ulibarri Programme, initiated in 1996 and regulated by Decree 323/2003, of 23 December, states that Act 10/1982, the Basic Act on the Normalization of the Use of Basque, in Chapter II, on the use of Basque in education, entrusts the Government with adopting measures aimed at ensuring the use of Basque in the entire environment, making it a normal vehicle for expression both during internal and external activities.

Additionally, specific programmes have been set up to promote the use of Basque among pupils. Noteworthy among the programmes promoted by the Education Department are those offered to schools by the NOLEGA (Implementation of the Normalization Act) section of the Basque Language Service of the Directorate for Educational Innovation. These programmes include those aimed explicitly at the use of Basque (the NOLEGA call to promote the spoken use of Basque and the centres for language consolidation), those aimed at improving the quality of written language (the Urruznotarrak gehituz literary competition), and the agreements signed with different associations (authors at schools, Ikas2deak, etc.).

Table: Pupils' participation in NOLEGA calls

Call	Pupils 2016-2017	Pupils 2003-2004
Oral activities (radio, verse, songs)	66,942	49,665

Activities outside the classroom (IKE)	269,565	90,897
Immersion stays in Basque (EGE)	14,175	12,428
Exchanges between two schools (IKABIL)	555	1,411
Authors at schools (EIE)	15,327	13,160
One-week stays at Basque language immersion schools (EGB)	3,163	3,417
Urruzunotarrak gehituz (literature)	151	525
Ikas2deak	3,979	2,420

During the last five academic years, nearly 400 schools have chosen to participate on a voluntary basis in the Ulibarri Programme (approximately 50% of all schools). Specifically, in the 2016-17 academic year there were 396 participating schools.

II. Language Strengthening Programme within the Specific Plan for Immigrant Pupils

The reception plan for immigrant pupils systematizes the agreements relating to interculturality and the presence of pupils with diverse cultures in schools. One way of starting to take decisions about cultural diversity within a school is by defining a specific educational plan aimed at the integration of newly arrived pupils and their families into the school. This document may help define such a plan: *“2nd specific educational Plan for immigrant pupils in the framework of inclusive and intercultural schools 2016-2020”*.

III. Evaluations and diagnoses of the results achieved by the educational system in the framework of schools

The Education Department, through the Basque Institute of Evaluation and Research (ISEI/IVEI) carries out annual or biannual diagnostic evaluations to measure the degree of acquisition of communicative skills in Basque among all the pupils in 4th grade of Primary Education and in 2nd grade of Compulsory Secondary Education. On the basis of the results achieved by pupils in the different skills measured, each school establishes an Improvement Plan.

Likewise, in collaboration with Soziolinguistika Klusterra (Sociolinguistic R&D&I Cluster), the Arrue Programme is being carried out at the request of the Education Department. In the 2016-2017 academic year, the results of the Arrue research are to be presented; they include both those regarding the use of Basque and those regarding communicative skills in both official languages, drawn from the diagnostic evaluation of 2015.

e. iii. if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, sub-paragraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;

The Basque university system comprises three universities: two private universities (Mondragón University and Deusto University), and a single public university, the University of the Basque Country.

Act 19/1998, of 29 June, on the University Organization of the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country, was published in the BOPV on 16 July 1998. The Act regulates certain important aspects with regard to language use normalization. After that, Act 3/2004 continues to have provisions guaranteeing the promotion of the use of Basque.

The Basque Government supports and collaborates with the Basque university system through different University Plans. The Basque university system has been able to implement most of the actions set forth regarding education and training in the 2011-2014 University Plan. The evaluation of this Plan highlights the fact that the objectives set forth in the respective language normalization plans (the specific objectives or those that were part of their general strategic plans) have been fulfilled: coverage in Basque is guaranteed for an educational community with ever-increasing skills in the previous educational levels (Primary and Secondary). Moreover, the evaluation shows that language normalization constitutes a sphere of action that must be continued with a view to the 2015-2018 period. The steady acquisition of Basque in the pre-university educational stages has created a demand which, correspondingly, needs to be met by the Basque university system.

In the section on the evaluation of the Basque Government's Programme-Contracts with universities, we highlight the following results:

- **University of the Basque Country:** As regards language normalization, the results achieved for all the indicators included in the Programme-Contract have been satisfactory, with more than 77% of undergraduate credit courses being taught in Basque, and more than 50% of teaching and research staff who is bilingual (nearly 80% of them PhDs). Also relevant is the fact that expectations have been met as regards producing manuals and books in Basque, as well as the number of grants (many of them international) for writing dissertations in Basque. Moreover, the number of administrative and service staff in positions that require accredited Basque language skills—806—is near the target established for 2013.

- **Deusto University:** As for language normalization, the results achieved have been satisfactory. In 2013, 20% of teaching and research staff give their classes in Basque, and 43.6% of administrative and service staff is capable of performing their duties in Basque. The percentage of undergraduate credits in Basque exceeds 34% in 2013; there is also an offer of PhD programmes in Basque (there were none in 2010).

In line with the results achieved, the new 2015-2018 Basque University Plan, as regards the contexts and the resources to be mobilized, is committed to generating capacities and an offer of content to facilitate the development of Basque culture and make it possible to meet a growing demand for education in Basque. Noteworthy among the specific actions in this new Plan are the following measures for language normalization:

- Implementation of Basque language plans
- Development of support tools for teaching in Basque
- Support for producing, translating and publishing books in Basque
- Consolidation of structures, processes and actions to recruit pre-doctoral talent, promoting the production of PhD dissertations in Basque
- Support for academic journals in Basque

University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU)

Given its size, offer and research capacity, the University of the Basque Country is the Basque Country's main university, with 45,000 students and 5,000 teaching staff.

In the 2014/2015 academic year, 45% of this public university's students are taking their courses in Basque; in 2008/2009 the proportion was 40%. If we analyse new enrolment, the percentage of students opting for studying in Basque has risen steadily. In recent years, despite a drop in total enrolment, the number of students taking their courses in Basque continues to grow.

Academic year	Students studying in Basque	Total number of students
2012-2013	16,707	40,768
2013-2014	17,300	40,359
2014-2015	17,379	38,494

If we take into account the data on the number of students taking the university entrance examination in Basque, the percentage is set to rise even more in coming years, as can be concluded from the table below:

Academic year	Araba	Bizkaia	Gipuzkoa	Total
2012-2013	57.26%	51.80%	74.39%	59.69%
2013-2014	45.78%	52.59%	74.50%	60.77%
2014-2015	57.55%	57.05%	76.94%	64.43%

Therefore, one of the main language policy objectives adopted in 2013 by the UPV/EHU when approving its Master Plan for Basque (2013-2017), with regard to its educational offer, is to streamline the process and increase its academic offer in Basque. The five main objectives that can also be defined with regard to the educational options to be offered in coming years are:

A: Offer all of the undergraduate and graduate core and required credit courses in Basque with professional guidelines, provided that demand is sufficient, guaranteeing that graduate and master's degree dissertations can be carried out in Basque.

B: Increase the offer of Basque in postgraduate studies, creating new studies where the main language is Basque, and including subjects in Basque in current postgraduate studies, first in required courses, if possible, and later in electives.

C: Ensure language quality in teaching materials.

D: Guarantee students' language and communication rights.

E: Increase the offer of courses in Basque in Lifelong and Continuing Education.

F: Offer MOOC (Massive Online Open Courses) in Basque.

General objectives of the UPV/EHU Master Plan for Basque

1. Ensure equal language opportunities in the university community, for each of the official languages.

2. Make Basque a language of culture in the university community, with the university contributing to its normalization in this sphere: in degree courses, teaching and research.

3. Strengthen and consolidate the community of Basque-speaking university students. To this end, take measures to strengthen and improve the offer of courses, the teaching staff, the dissemination of research, and also the daily use of Basque with the involvement of students.

4. Enable the UPV/EHU to continue being a trailblazing institution in developing and normalizing Basque, and to become a reference for terminology, publications and the dissemination of science and knowledge.

In 2013, the UPV/EHU approved the renewal and adaptation of the Master Plan for Basque (2007/08-2011/12), in order to align it with the new guidelines that would be defined in the next Planning Period for the Normalization of the Use of Basque in the Public Administrations (for the 2013-2017 period), and it has currently initiated the drafting process of the Master Plan for Basque for the forthcoming 2017-2021.

f. i. to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages;

Teaching Basque to Adults:

1. HABE

To implement Chapter 4 of the Act on the Normalization of the Use of Basque, the Basque Parliament approved Act 29/1983, which created the Institute for Basque Literacy and for Teaching Basque to Adults, and for Regulating the Official Centres for Teaching Basque (HABE).

HABE is a public law institution with its own legal personality; it is independent from the Administration of the Basque Autonomous Community and has full capacity to pursue its objectives.

HABE's institutional objective is to foster the teaching of Basque to adults, giving face-to-face Basque courses at *euskaltegis* (official centres for teaching Basque), or through other means of language teaching/learning, either fully online (e-learning) or only partly so (b-learning).

2. HEOC: The framework curriculum for the process of teaching Basque to adults

In Basque society, *euskaltegis* play a key role in teaching people Basque and in promoting its use. Therefore, it is necessary for the *euskaltegis*' work to adapt to people's changing language needs and to respond to them with sufficient quality and flexibility. The Basic Curriculum for Teaching Basque to Adults (HEOC) replaces the 1999 curriculum, adapting it to today's needs. It is especially significant in these circumstances, because it is defined as the framework curriculum for the process of teaching Basque to adults in the current Basque society. HEOC's general principles are articulated around two essential guidelines: on the one hand, it is based on the communicative and action-based approach, and on the other, it gives priority to learner autonomy.

This framework curriculum will be HABE's reference in designing training processes for teachers and experts in Basque, as regards the three levels of the curriculum (base, Centre and classroom), as well as the three modalities of learning (face-to-face, tutored self-study, and blended). Moreover, it will also be a reference for *euskaltegis* and Basque language self-study centres to design their curriculum, aimed at fostering their teaching and organizational autonomy.

When addressing the implementation of the curriculum, it is crucial for *euskaltegis* to take into account any significant changes resulting from social evolution, especially any changes in the types of learners.

There is another key aspect to bear in mind as regards the types of learners: enrolment of immigrants in *euskaltegis*. Most of these people have no prior knowledge of Basque.

This evolution has led to HABE constantly adopting its proposed curricula. Proof of this are the programmes and curricula for the teaching of Basque that it has designed since its inception and throughout the past decades. Furthermore, these communicative characteristics and needs are what have led to a substantial change in the teaching of Basque to adults, which is made clear in the definition of the relations between learners

and teachers, in the adaptation of classroom activities, in the possibility for learners to advance by using technological resources, etc.

The teaching of Basque to adults is aimed at developing communicative skills, and in line with the psychological and pedagogical principles set forth in the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, this Basic Curriculum is based on communicative action and gives priority to the socioconstructivist perspective and is aimed at communicative actions.

3. People enrolled in the programme

The following table presents the historical data of students enrolled in *euskaltegis* listed on the HABE register:

Academic year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Persons enrolled	39,723	37,396	35,132	32,376	32,242	33,499	34,796

4. Characteristics of the network for teaching Basque to adults

The network for teaching Basque to adults under the HABE Act comprises 97 *euskaltegis* and six approved self-study centres which are listed on the HABE register. 38 *euskaltegis* are publicly owned and 59 are privately owned social initiatives. The six approved self-study centres are privately owned.

As for the Basque courses for adults on offer, three of the social initiative *euskaltegis* offer residential courses.

Euskaltegis and approved self-study centres offer courses in three modalities: face-to-face, blended and tutored self-study.

81% of students enrol in face-to-face courses, 6% in blended courses, and 13% in tutored self-study courses.

5. The certification process

The accreditation system is based on external evaluators' certification of students' communicative skills, in accordance with the parameters established in the Basic Curriculum for Teaching Basque to Adults. The levels accredited through specific examinations are B1, B2, C1 and C2. Four skills are tested for each level: listening, reading, speaking and writing. The technical description and characteristics of these tests, by level and by skill, are contained in the Annexes to the Decision of the HABE Director-General, who annually determines the dates for the examinations of the different levels of communicative competence in Basque.

A group of 560 external evaluators, *euskaltegi* teachers and other experts—selected after participating in online and face-to-face sessions on harmonizing evaluation criteria—are responsible for the external evaluation process.

After a decade in which this accreditation model has become consolidated, the HABE leadership, in consultation with agents from *euskaltegis*, have recently introduced some innovations into the evaluation/accreditation system which must be highlighted:

- Certification of levels A1 and A2 has been included.
- The Basque Government's Department of Education, Language Policy and Culture designed a new accreditation model with the aim of bringing the characteristics of the accreditation process closer to those of the language learning process, thus

creating a blended design combining the continuous evaluation activities of the teaching/learning process and the accreditation tests. This design is currently being applied in levels A1, A2 and B1. This model entered into force through an Order of the Department Head of Education, Language Policy and Culture, dated 23 November 2016, which set forth the procedures for obtaining the certifications corresponding to the levels of proficiency defined in the Basic Curriculum for Teaching Basque to Adults (BOPV No. 232, of 7 December 2016). It was subsequently implemented through a Resolution of the HABE Director-General, dated 9 January 2017, establishing the levels of the Basic Curriculum for Teaching Basque to Adults (HEOC) which will be accredited in the 2016-2017 academic year through evaluation activities in the context of continuous evaluation, and setting forth the 2017 examination dates for students of Basque at *euskaltegis* and approved self-study centres listed on the HABE register (BOPV No. 12, of 18 January 2017).

Candidates by year and level

LEVEL	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
B1	4,578	4,441	4,667	4,369	3,705	2,743	2,587	2,563	3,129	32,782
B2	5,255	6,211	7,254	7,533	6,195	4,953	4,806	4,847	5,778	52,832
C1	3,917	5,419	6,437	6,715	6,158	5,418	5,333	5,668	6,129	51,194
C2	98	184	347	455	546	523	540	506	492	3,691
	13,848	16,255	18,705	19,072	16,604	13,637	13,266	13,584	15,528	140,499

Successful candidates by year and level

LEVEL	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	
B1	2,623	2,507	2,403	2,350	1,746	1,454	1,415	1,444	1,766	17,708
B2	2,484	2,905	2,807	3,066	2,385	1,960	1,985	2,256	2,672	22,520
C1	1,132	1,582	1,845	1,637	1,560	1,261	1,309	1,507	1,734	13,567
C2	54	61	88	104	164	134	115	113	100	933
	6,293	7,055	7,143	7,157	5,855	4,809	4,824	5,320	6,272	54,728

6. Public resources allocated to supporting this programme

The HABE budget comes from an allocation in the general budget of the Basque Autonomous Community. The following economic resources have been made available to public and private *euskaltegis* listed on the HABE Register for the funding of their activities:

Amounts allocated to calls for grants for <i>euskaltegis</i> (municipal <i>euskaltegis</i> + private <i>euskaltegis</i> and self-study centres)					
Acad emic year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18
Euros	30,372,000	29,886,000	29,790,000	29,879,025	31,099,700

These resources cover 60% of the actual cost of funding said activities, which are classed as priority funding programmes under the Basque language promotion plans supported by the Basque Government. As a result, the Basque Government allocates these budgetary resources to *euskaltegis* through HABE, in a stable and sustained

manner, because there is specific legislation in this area regulating the promotion of the programme to teach Basque to adults. This legal foundation, and the priority with which these activities have been classed, have made it possible for the grant modules per group to be updated at a higher level than that established for calls in the field of language policy for promoting Basque. HABE has announced a 6% rise in this grant module for the academic year 2017-2018.

HABE allocates a yearly budget of one million euros to implementing the programme for accrediting students' language proficiency. This yearly budget does not include the expenses of HABE's own staff.

7. Interinstitutional collaboration

a) Grants aimed at maintaining activity

HABE's funding of *euskaltegis'* activities, in the case of private or social initiative *euskaltegis*, is based on a system of calls for grants with predefined funding modules (hour/course, student ratio, self-study course unit...). Thus, it is a regulated grant programme aimed at guaranteeing the proper functioning of the activity of adults learning Basque. Moreover, some of the centres receive municipal grants to maintain their educational facilities. The remaining service costs are borne by students through their corresponding enrolment fees. In the case of municipally owned *euskaltegis*, HABE has signed a collaboration agreement with EUDEL (Association of Basque Municipalities), whereby HABE bears the expenses of teachers' salaries, and the municipalities bear the expenses of teachers' social security and the infrastructure expenses of the educational facilities.

b) Grants for students

Furthermore, in addition to the grants aimed at *euskaltegis'* activities, HABE awards a direct grant to students who each year pass the corresponding Basque level accreditation examinations organized by HABE (or other equivalent levels). The amounts earmarked for these grants are:

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
0	700,000	800,000	1,000,000	1,250,000	1,250,000

The call for Basque Government grants for *euskaltegi* students was resumed in 2013, with the aim of promoting the successful completion of courses, by enabling students to be reimbursed for part or all of their previously paid enrolment fees. Since then, their amount has risen by 79% up to 2016. In 2017 this budget item has not been increased, because the Basque Country's three Provincial Councils (*Diputaciones Forales*) have made calls for grants for the same purpose. Moreover, a large number of municipalities also make calls for direct grants for students in their respective municipalities. All of these grants are compatible, provided that the total amount does not exceed the actual amount of the fees paid by the students.

g. to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;

The teaching of content, procedures and values regarding the Basque Dimension of the Curriculum (history, geography, literature, art...) is covered by law, which confers on the Basque Autonomous Community the capacity to legislate on 45% of the total curriculum. As a result, the region's Decrees and other legislation on curricula have sections and components that address said area explicitly.

Moreover, real and quantifiable progress is being made in this area. In this regard, the Plan Heziberri 2020 includes the following:

“2.2. Guidelines for selecting declarative content: specific dimension of Basque language and culture. Balance between the different dimensions of the curriculum.

All of the curricular content comprising cultural legacy is the result of the contribution of multiple dimensions that are deeply interconnected: the personal, family, local, community, territorial, national, European and universal dimensions, the fabric of which is part of the students’ curriculum. Each of these dimensions is, in turn, multifaceted, because each one of them generates diverse cultural responses and expressions. All this notwithstanding, the area called the Basque Country has its own linguistic and cultural aggregate, which must be taken into account when designing a curriculum that is respectful towards these multiple dimensions and that enables dialogue among cultures.”

The development of the curriculum is reflected in the different Decrees corresponding to the different educational stages:

- Decree on the curriculum for Early Years Education: Decree 237/2015, of 22 December, establishing the Early Years Education curriculum and implementing it in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country (BOPV, 15 January 2016)
- Decree on the curriculum for Basic Education: Decree 236/2015, of 22 December, establishing the Basic Education curriculum and implementing it in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country (BOPV, 15 January 2016)
- Decree on the curriculum for Post-compulsory Secondary Education: Decree 127/2016 establishing the Post-compulsory Secondary Education curriculum and implementing it in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country (BOPV, 23 September 2016)

The content included in these Decrees is developed in greater detail through certain supplementary documents. This, for Primary Education there is an extensive document “Curriculum intended as guidance supplementing Annex II of Decree 236/2015”, and the part of the curriculum that is most specifically linked to Basque culture is included in different sections called “Definition of the specific contents of the Basque curriculum” for each different subject:

A similar document supplementing the Post-compulsory Secondary Education curriculum is to be published soon.

h. to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;

This section is being complied with to a great extent. Act 10/1982, the Basic Act on the Normalization of the Use of Basque, sets forth that the Basque Government shall establish the resources to gradually make all teachers Basque speakers, and shall determine the teaching positions or units for which knowledge of Basque shall be mandatory.

This is expressly set out in official provisions. Both in initial and in lifelong teacher training there are increasingly diversified Basque learning options. However, much remains to be done, both in initial and in lifelong teacher training (Prest_Gara programme).

Likewise, the IRALE (Service for Teacher Training in Basque) Programme is dedicated to giving teachers training in Basque. Also worth highlighting is the work being carried out by the IRALE Programme in drafting and adapting digital teaching materials in Basque for specific groups of students and academic specialities.

The annual offer of IRALE high-level courses taught outside working hours is currently wide-ranging, as can be observed in the following tables:

COURSES TAUGHT OUTSIDE WORKING HOURS

COURSES TAKEN BEFORE PL2 (equivalent to CEFR C1), EGA (also equivalent to CEFR C1), OR EQUIVALENT LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY CERTIFICATE	
Name	Description
A	Courses leading to PL1 (equivalent to CEFR B2)
E	Courses taken after PL1 and leading to PL2 or EGA
COURSES H, F, I, Q	
Name	Description
H100	Written or spoken language rules and standards. Spelling, grammar and vocabulary rules of the Royal Academy of the Basque Language. Pronunciation, stress and intonation rules and standards.
H200	Practical language proficiency: functional capacity in spoken and written Basque, with high-level skills.
H300	Theoretical knowledge of and practical skills in translation techniques. This will be mainly based on the translation of Secondary Education textbooks.
H401	Speaking practice, in general terms.
H402	Colloquial language.
H403	Formal language in spoken public presentations.
H404	Basque literature.
H405	Story creation. Storytelling.
H406	Basque theatre. Singing. <i>Bersolarismo</i> (improvised verse singing). Dance. Radio. Basque games and sports.
H407	The Basque dimension of the curriculum. Course in Basque culture.
H408	Sociolinguistics.
H409	Sociolinguistics: Language transmission at home and at school.
H410	Sociolinguistics: Personal language space workshop (TELP).
H411	Plurality, immigration and languages: analysing, constructing and developing language coexistence from a multilingual perspective.
H500	Information technology and Basque.
F100	Practical training in the use of the terminology of the humanities. Application to the teacher's specific field.
F200	Practical training in the use of the terminology of science and technology. Application to the teacher's specific field.
I	Courses in the methodology of Basque as a second language, aimed at students' communicative capacity.
Q	Dialectal varieties of Basque: characteristics and study of texts.

COURSES TAUGHT WITHIN WORKING HOURS

Intensive courses to obtain PL1, PL2 and HLEA (equivalent to CEFR B2)		
Name	Description	Teaching hours
U2	Annual course to obtain PL1	850
U3	Annual course to obtain PL2	850
3000	Semi-annual course to obtain PL1	475
4000	Semi-annual course to obtain HLEA	475
5000	Semi-annual course to obtain PL2	475
R Courses		

Name	Description	Teaching hours
R300	Course to consolidate language and teaching proficiency in Basque	365
R400	Practical course for creating teaching materials in Basque	365
R600	The Basque dimension of the curriculum: Course in Basque culture	365
R800	Language proficiency in teaching practice	365

As stated above, PL2 (Language Profile 2 for Teachers) is equivalent to level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages, and qualifies teachers to teach in Basque. PL1 (Language Profile 1 for Teachers) is equivalent to CEFR B2 and does not qualify teachers to teach in Basque, but only to communicate in Basque outside the classroom.

TEACHERS' LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY (NON-UNIVERSITY EDUCATION)

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Total teachers	35,524	36,231	36,788	36,950
Without a Language Profile	11.2	10	9.3	8.5
PL1	4.1	4	3.8	3.6
PL2	84.7	86	86.9	87.9

The table below contrasts the information from the 2015-2016 academic year and from the 2005-2006 academic year, to prove the progress made in making teachers in the Basque Autonomous Community Basque speakers.

	Without a Language Profile	PL1	PL2
2005-2006	21.8	5.2	73.1
2015-2016	8.5	3.6	87.9

If we analyse Basque public schools (comprising 60% of all teachers), we can see that the level of knowledge of Basque and the accreditation of Language Profiles is higher than average.

PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Total teachers	22,655	22,965	23,405	23,485
Without a Language Profile	6.6	5.8	5	4.4
PL1	3.9	3.5	3.2	2.9

PL2	89.5	90.7	91.8	92.7
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In the table below we provide the comparison between the latest percentages of the 2015-2016 school year and those of the 2005-2006 academic year, to prove the progress made in making public school teachers in the Basque Autonomous Community Basque speakers.

	2005-2006	2014-2015
Without a Language Profile	14.6	4.4
PL1	6.0	2.9
PL2	79.5	92.7

The evolution in the level of knowledge of Basque and the accreditation of Language Profiles in both cases is on the rise; moreover, there has been a decrease in teachers who have not attained a Language Profile, in both quantitative terms and percentage terms.

i. to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

The Education Department's statistical services, as well as certain administrative bodies, are carrying out this task in a sustained and increasingly detailed manner. The Basque Government's Education Department has published the following:

- Pre-enrolment data (general education scheme)
- September enrolment data (general education scheme)

These data have been published yearly, every October, since 2001-2002.

- School Directory
 - Information about non-university education taught at educational centres in the Basque Country, and their location.

This information is kept updated throughout the entire school year.

- Definitive data summary
 - Data about school activity in non-university education (general and special schemes): schools, teachers and students, by the following variables: territory (equivalent to province), educational level, public or private system, gender, language model, nationality and age.

These data have been published yearly, every October, since 2006-2007.

- Summary of the data collected in the ICT survey (Survey on information and communication technologies in educational centres)

These data have been published yearly, every October, since 2003-2004.

<http://www.hezkuntza.ejgv.euskadi.eus/estadisticas-educacion/>

Paragraph 2. With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language

justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

Here please see the information that has been provided with regard to the activity of Instituto Cervantes for this paragraph of the Charter in the corresponding section of this report on Catalan in Catalonia.

For its part, the Basque Government directly addresses the educational needs of the student population of the Basque Autonomous Community. However, and additionally, it establishes operational links with institutions outside its Autonomous Community in order to foster activities aimed at increasing the knowledge or use of the Basque language.

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Paragraph 1.

The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:

a. in criminal proceedings:

i. to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii. to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or

iii. to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or

iv. to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;

b. in civil proceedings:

i. to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii. to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

iii. to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

c. in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

i. to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii. to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

i. to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

Paragraph 2.

The Parties undertake:

a. not to deny the validity of legal documents drawn up within the State solely because they are drafted in a regional or minority language,

Paragraph 3.

The Parties undertake to make available in the regional or minority languages the most important national statutory texts and those relating particularly to users of these languages, unless they are otherwise provided.

Recommendations by the Committee of Ministers:

1. amend the legal framework with a view to making it clear that the criminal, civil and administrative judicial authorities in the Autonomous Communities can conduct the proceedings in co-official languages at the request of one party;

2. continue to implement legal and step up practical measures aimed at ensuring that an adequate proportion of the judicial staff posted in the Autonomous Communities concerned by the application of Article 9 of the Charter has a working knowledge of the relevant languages;

Please refer to the general information, non-specific to the Autonomous Community, provided with respect to Article 9 of the Charter, and with respect to Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Committee of Ministers, in the section of this report corresponding to Catalan in Catalonia.

In the 2014-2016 period, work has continued regarding the translation of diverse legal texts, in collaboration with the University of the Basque Country:

- Organic Statute of the State Prosecution Service
- Legislation on corporations
- A selection of laws on genetics and biomedicine
- Organic Law on the Judiciary

Likewise, pursuant to the collaboration agreement between the Basque Government and the Spanish National Government for the publication of national laws and provisions in Basque (BOE No. 254, of 21 October 2011), 155 legal texts were translated into Basque between 2014 and 2016, for publication in the BOE. 62 of these were translated in 2014, 84 in 2015, and 9 in 2016. Of these texts, 84 were Laws, 27 were Organic Laws, 8 were Royal Legislative Decrees, and 36 were Decree-Laws.

Moreover, and as part of the efforts to translate national legislation, the Commission for the Normalization of Judicial Documents in Basque is carrying out an updated and consensus-based translation of the Civil Procedure Act.

The Basque Government continues to develop specific lines of work on terminology matters, with special emphasis on dissemination.

The terminology service is ongoing and continues to expand its content. Noteworthy among the work carried out to establish legal terminology in Basque is the publication of different terminological dictionaries in the legal-administrative field by the Terminology Commission of the Basque Language Advisory Council:

- Local Administrations Dictionary
- Data Protection Dictionary
- Elections Dictionary
- Occupational Safety Dictionary
- Collective Bargaining Dictionary
- Administrative Litigation Dictionary
- Public Treasury Dictionary
- Criminal Procedure Dictionary
- Civil Procedure Dictionary
- Civil Registry Dictionary
- Criminal Law and Prison Supervision Dictionary

All the above-mentioned commitments have been fulfilled in theory and in practice. However, the lack of Basque language skills of a considerable proportion of the Justice Administration staff entails a dependence on translation services, with the ensuing slowness of judicial proceedings. Therefore, increasing the knowledge of Basque among judicial staff is one of the main challenges being addressed in recent years, both by the national and by the regional administrations, with respect in all cases for the scope of powers of each administration.

At the national level, the General Council of the Judiciary (CGPJ) is a constitutional, collegiate, autonomous body comprising judges and other legal experts, which is the governing body of the judicial power, aimed at guaranteeing the independence of judges in the exercise of the judicial function.

In 2013, the CGPJ signed an agreement with Spain's National University for Distance Education (UNED), in order to offer the members of the judiciary language learning programmes through the *University Centre for Distance Language Learning (CUID)* under special favourable conditions for them. Thus, Basque courses are on offer for the members of the judiciary, with different modalities (blended and online) and levels.

Moreover, the CGPJ's Lifelong Learning Service manages the annual grants programme for the funding of training activities for members of the judiciary, and other grants programmes promoted by judicial associations, including grants for learning the languages of Spain's Autonomous Communities. These programmes offer members of the judiciary reimbursement for a significant percentage of the expenses incurred in taking courses in Spain's co-official languages (the percentage varies depending on the number of applications, but it exceeds 50%).

The CGPJ has also signed a collaboration agreement with the Basque Government regarding the normalization of the use of Basque in certain spheres of the Justice Administration in the Basque Country, annually authorizing expenditure from the budget programme for the Selection and Training Process of Judges, aimed at funding the costs deriving from the Basque language learning activities during that year. The members of the Judiciary who are posted at the Basque Country's jurisdictional bodies

are annually offered the programme of Basque language learning activities; the courses are organized by the Basque Government's Directorate for the Justice Administration, in collaboration with the CGPJ.

The programme of language learning activities includes:

- Face-to-face courses, in *euskaltegis*, of up to 10 hours per week.
- Self-study course (using the online multimedia BOGA program, in addition to supplementary materials)
- Intensive 5-hour courses. The CGPJ may grant daily permission to attend these 5-hour courses, starting from HABE's sub-level A2.2.
- Intensive summer courses. These may be in *euskaltegis* or in *barnetegis* (Basque language immersion schools), for a duration of at least 90-100 teaching hours.

As for the filling of positions, pursuant to the provisions of the Organic Law on the Judiciary regarding access to civil service positions in the Justice Administration, regulated in Book VI, the positions offered in the Autonomous Communities whose authority for civil servants has been devolved (as is the case of the Basque Country) are territorial in nature, and the candidates aspiring to them are to be posted in the territory that they have chosen. This, in general, enables positions in Autonomous Communities with their own language to be filled by candidates who reside in the corresponding Autonomous Community. Moreover, in Autonomous Communities with their own language, other than Castilian, the selection process includes a specific, optional test by means of which proficiency in this language can be demonstrated.

Thus, from 2014 to 2016 the processes in which civil servants of the Justice Administration could apply for different positions included the possibility of receiving points for spoken and written knowledge of the co-official language of the corresponding Autonomous Communities, duly accredited by an official certificate from the Autonomous Community, or official recognition of another certificate and of the corresponding level. This led to a score of up to 12 points in accordance with the accredited language level.

As regards Judges and Prosecutors, the current Organic Law on the Judiciary sets forth that knowledge of the co-official language and of the legal system of the Autonomous Community will be taken into consideration when selecting and filling civil service positions in the Justice Administration and in the Public Prosecution Service.

Article 341.1 of the Organic Law on the Judiciary sets forth that *"In order to fill the positions of President of the High Courts of Justice, and of Autonomous Community High Courts, in those Autonomous Communities that have Special Civil Law (or Foral Law), as well as an official language of their own, the General Council of the Judiciary shall take into consideration the specialization in said Special Civil or Foral Law and the knowledge of the own official language of the Autonomous Community; 2. Rules shall be set forth to determine the criteria for considering knowledge of the language and of the Special Civil or Foral Law of said Autonomous Communities, as preferential in applying for positions in the jurisdictional bodies of their territory."* This provision has been developed in Regulation 2/2011 of the Judiciary, Title III of which bears the name: *"Consideration of knowledge of the Autonomous Community's co-official language and specific Civil Law as preferential in applying for positions in the jurisdictional bodies of certain Autonomous Communities."*

The assessment criteria established in this Title are applicable, pursuant to Article 71 of said Regulation, in the territory of the Autonomous Communities whose Statutes of Autonomy recognize a language as co-official and of those that have their own Civil Law. Thus, pursuant to Article 74, candidates receive extra seniority for having accredited knowledge of the co-official language of the corresponding Autonomous

Community. This is done, pursuant to Article 77.3, “so that they may have preference in the assignment of the positions offered in the jurisdictional bodies of the territory of the corresponding Autonomous Community.”

Therefore, said Regulation favours judges in the territory of the Basque Country knowing Basque.

In line with this, Article 36.6 of Act 50/1981, of 30 December, regulating the Organic Statute of the State Prosecution Service, which sets forth knowledge of the co-official language and of the law specific to the Autonomous Community as being taken into consideration for the filling of positions at the Prosecution Services based in Autonomous Communities with a co-official language.

With regard to the actions carried out in the Autonomous Community aimed at increasing the language skills of judicial staff, it must be noted that there have been many in recent years. Stemming from the General Plan for Language Normalization in the Justice Administration of the Basque Autonomous Community, approved by the Governing Council on 29 July 2008, the following are the main developments during this period:

- In order to promote language normalization in the sphere of Justice, the Basque Government, together with the representatives from the judiciary and the prosecution services, officially presented, in December 2013, the “Auzia Euskaraz” (“Proceedings in Basque”) project, so that judicial proceedings may be conducted entirely in Basque, from the moment a complaint is filed, up to the handing down of the corresponding judicial decision. The project is being promoted by the language normalization team of the Basque Government’s Justice Department, together with three language promotion experts hired for this purpose. Within this programme, the “Eman zure euskara” (“Donate your Basque”) campaign has been launched, an information and registration process for all those in the sphere of Basque Justice who are interested in joining what will be the first entirely Basque-speaking community.

- As for the allocation of human and material resources, the collection of judicial documents is available in Basque, as well as the tools for promoting said documents: computer-assisted translation tools, dictionaries, terminology databases, etc. Moreover, on a general basis, the entire Basque Service of the Directorate for the Justice Administration is also available to the courts: translators, normalization experts, terminology consultants, and *trebatzailes* (instructors teaching the specialized Basque necessary for each person’s job). In addition, courses are being taught at courts to train staff in the use of technological tools and resources enabling bilingual processing. These courses are also a way of promoting the language among staff. To date, these courses have been given in the courts of Gernika, Bergara, Tolosa and Amurrio, with the participation of approximately 80 people.

- Since 1996, the Commission for the Normalization of Judicial Documents in Basque has examined a considerable number of documents in order to supervise and validate their translations, adjust the terminology, and make them available for the processing software. The Commission comprises members of the Judiciary, of the Bar Association, of the University of the Basque Country, of Deusto University, and of the Official Translation Service of the IVAP (Basque Institute of Administration), under the coordination of the language normalization unit of the Basque Government’s Justice Department. As a result of the Commission’s work, the number of bilingual documents implemented is steadily rising. In 2016, 6,750 documents are bilingual, over a total of 10,216 models used, a considerable number compared with the number of bilingual documents in 2011, which was 1,226. However, since 2015 the Commission’s key task does not consist in validating documents, but in updating the translation of the Civil Procedure Act. For this reason, the normalization of documents has been stepped up by using the guidelines set forth in previously normalized documents. To do so, the translated documents are screened in order to decide which ones need to be reviewed by

the Commission and which can be directly sent to the judicial bodies' information system, once they have been translated in strict compliance with the Commission's guidelines.

- Computerization of the Justice Administration: With the goal of all technical solutions being bilingual, and so that users may choose the language, both in producing documents and in their workplace interface, the JustiziaBat (JBAT) software has launched diverse resources available to staff so that they may do their work in Basque: a language and terminology consulting service enabling feedback from the staff member using it, computer-assisted translation tools, proposed texts, dictionaries and consultation databases, insertion of text segments, etc. The efforts made to include standardized bilingual documents in JustiziaBat have been quite successful. Today, 34% of all the models used in the Justice Administration can be issued in bilingual form. But it must be borne in mind that, since certain models are more frequently used than others, the actual number of bilingual documents issued is much larger; as a matter of fact, in 2016 they accounted for more than 60% of all documents issued. In other words, more bilingual documents than monolingual documents in Castilian are processed. In total, out of the 10,216 models used in practice, some 6,750 are available for processing in Basque.

- As regards staff positions, after the publication of Decree 174/2010, successive Decrees have reformulated the list of staff positions (RPT) in the Judicial Office units. Some of these positions are allocated depending on the level of knowledge of Basque, in a number that is proportional to the effective implementation of Basque in the territory of the judicial district. Decree 174/2010 assigns a language profile to each of the staff corps involved, both to cases in which knowledge of Basque is taken into consideration, and to those specific positions in which it is required:

- Language Profile 2 (B2): Judicial Assistance Corps, Procedural and Administrative Processing Corps, and Laboratory Assistant Corps
- Language Profile 3 (C1): Procedural and Administrative Management Corps, and Forensic Physician Corps

- With regard to training, different types of courses are taught, with special emphasis on addressing requests from staff whose positions have a specific language requirement. Of transferred staff, 321 people have taken language skills courses in 2013-2014; 218 in 2014-2015; and 213 in 2015-2016.

To bridge the gap created in 2013 when the training sessions given by *trebatzailles* disappeared, the course *Oreka On* was created: this is a specific course for Justice Administration staff with an intermediate level of Basque so that they may take that step forward from general knowledge of Basque to specific use for their workplace. The course started in 2014, and combined face-to-face and online sessions; the teaching materials were designed at the Directorate for the Justice Administration. The course was redesigned in 2016 and its three-level structure was transformed into a more flexible structure comprising 12 shorter modules. A more advanced course has also been created, called *Onbidez*. From 2013 to 2015, 12 groups in the initial *Oreka On* format were established, with the participation of 149 students. In 2016, 60 people have enrolled in the new format course.

- With regard to accreditation of the Justice Administration staff's accreditation of their Language Profile, 1,019 people have accredited Language Profiles 2, 3 and 4, equivalent, respectively, to the Common European Framework of Languages levels B2, C1 and C2 (Language Profiles 2 and 3 are mandatory), i.e. 44.38% of all the staff. If we take into account the Language Profile required for each Corps, the corresponding Profiles have been accredited by 45.06% of the Judicial Assistance Corps, 41.72% of the Processing Corps, 36.69% of the Procedural Management Corps, and 10% of the Forensic Physicians Corps. Please bear in mind that the aim is to reach the sociolinguistic index

established for each judicial district in 2020. In this regard, it must be noted that the evolution is satisfactory and it is foreseeable that these goals will be met. The members of the Judiciary and of the Prosecution Service, as well as the members of the Justice Administration Attorney Corps, do not yet have an assigned or required Language Profile. However, 39 people, i.e. 7.14%, have accredited Language Profiles 3 or 4 (equivalent to CEFR levels C1 and C2, respectively).

Article 10. Administrative authorities and public services

Paragraph 1. Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:

a. i. to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages;

The Committee of Experts, in its latest report, urged the Spanish authorities to substantially increase the number of Basque-speaking staff in the relevant state administration offices and to develop adequate training schemes.

Once again, here we must distinguish between the authority of the Spanish National Government and that of the Basque Autonomous Community and Basque local authorities.

In the national framework, the training activities to increase and improve the use of Basque in public services have been constant. In addition to training actions in co-official languages being carried out in different sectors, Spain’s General State Administration (AGE) implements its training policy for its civil service staff through the National Institute of Public Administration (INAP), a self-governing body attached to the Ministry of the Treasury and of the Civil Service. INAP has been collaborating for years in promoting the learning of co-official languages at different levels by the AGE’s civil service staff posted in the Autonomous Communities that have another official language in addition to Castilian, including the staff of the State Security Forces.

Budget allocated by INAP for the teaching of co-official languages in the Basque Country

2014	2015	2016	2017 (forecast)
€22,852	€29,427	€22,510	€30,000

Training activities in Basque are organized in *euskaltegis* proposed by the Basque Government, with independent management in Araba, Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa.

The content is in line with the levels of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) A1, A2, B1, B2, and C1. These activities take place during academic years.

The courses offered include the following levels:

- Face-to-face modality: A1, A2, B1, B2.1, B2.2, C1.1 and C1.2
Average duration: 250 hours
- Online modality: A1, A2, B1, B2.1, B2.2, C1.1 and C1.2
Average duration: 190 hours

As regards knowledge of Basque by the AGE staff in the Basque Country, it is estimated that approximately 14% of the staff of the National Government Delegation and Sub-Delegations speak Basque.

Araba: 10%
Bizkaia: 12%
Gipuzkoa: 18.7%

Full language proficiency (reading, listening comprehension, speaking and writing): 8 people, i.e. 6.8% of the staff; reading and listening comprehension: 14 people, i.e. 11.9% of the staff.

Moreover, the National Government Delegation has 7 Basque translators.

As for the staff's language skills, it is worth highlighting Constitutional Court Judgment 82/1986, which, with regard to Act 10/1982 on the Language Normalization of the Basque Country, ruled that knowledge of Basque affects the Administration in its entirety, without signifying that each of its components be required to specifically have such knowledge.

Knowledge of the Basque language is taken into consideration when assigning positions in the Basque Country's territory, both in general National Administration Corps and in specific Corps posted to the Basque Country, including the National Police and the Civil Guard. As regards the latter, it must be mentioned that collaboration has been stepped up during this period between the Delegation of the Defence Ministry in the Basque Country and the translation service of the National Government Delegation and the Civil Guard Command, aimed at translating documents submitted in Basque.

Equally noteworthy is the translation of documents and forms into Basque, which in general are bilingual, as well as the translation of the websites of Ministries and other national public agencies.

(For more information, please see the section dedicated to the AGE)

In the framework of the Autonomous Community, and pursuant to Basque Act 10/1982, of 24 November, the Basic Act on the Normalization of the Use of Basque, the administrative authorities have specific obligation regarding the use of Basque:

"Any legislative provision or official decision emanating from the public authorities located in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country must be written in both languages for the purposes of official publicity" (Art. 8.1).

"Administrative notifications and communications must be written in both languages, unless the private parties concerned explicitly choose the use of one of the Autonomous Community's official languages" (Art. 8.2).

"All citizens are recognized the right to use either Basque or Castilian in their relations with the Public Administration in the territory of the Autonomous Community, and to receive attention in the official language of their choice" (Art. 6.1).

b. to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;

Most forms available to the public are in bilingual versions. However, complaints are still being received, especially with regard to written communication and signage in premises of the Post Office, RENFE, ADIF, and the Social Security, among others. Complaints made by the public are processed through the ELEBIDE service aimed at

guaranteeing language rights. The following are the number of complaints received by ELEBIDE addressed to the General State Administration:

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Written communication	14	25	15	16
Spoken communication	6	7	5	8
Language used in signage	9	5	6	1
Spoken and written communication	1	3	2	5
Signage and written communication	0	0	0	0
Signage and spoken communication	1	0	1	1
TOTAL	31	40	29	31

c. to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.

Regarding the languages used in administrative procedures, Act 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of the Public Administrations, sets forth in Article 15 that:

1. The language of procedures carried out by the General State Administration shall be Castilian. Notwithstanding the foregoing, those interested parties addressing the General State Administration bodies that are located in the territory of an Autonomous Community may also use the co-official language of the former.

In this case, the procedure shall be carried out in the interested party's language of choice. If several interested parties are participating in the procedure, and there is a discrepancy regarding the language used, the procedure shall be carried out in Castilian. However, any documents or statements required by the interested parties shall be issued in their language of choice.

2. In procedures carried out by the Administrations of the Autonomous Communities and of the Local Entities, the use of the language shall be in accordance with the provisions of the corresponding Autonomous Community legislation.

3. The Public Administration carrying out the procedure must translate into Castilian any documents, dossiers, or parts thereof that are to be effective outside the territory of the Autonomous Community, and any documents addressed to interested parties who request this explicitly. If they are to be effective in the territory of an Autonomous Community where that same language, other than Castilian, is co-official, they shall not need to be translated.

Paragraph 2. In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:

a. the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;

Please see what was explained in paragraph 1.a.i.

The Basque administrations are taking measures, in their respective spheres of authority, to comply with prevailing legislation, which usually takes the shape of Plans

for the normalization of the use of Basque. Said Plans fully encompass the Basque Government and its self-governing bodies. As for local and *foral* institutions, all of the Provincial Councils and their corresponding governing bodies have Plans for Basque, and 85% of local entities are also implementing said Plans. Furthermore, it must be noted that most local entities that do not have a Plan are scarcely populated entities with a high concentration of Basque speakers; therefore, Basque is used naturally.

In its fourth evaluation report, the Committee of Experts notes that problems persist in the police force, healthcare, and social services. More specifically, paragraph 405 states that the Committee looks forward to receiving updated information on the use of Basque in the police force (*Ertzaintza*) and the health service (*Osakidetza*).

Thus, as regards the *Ertzaintza* (the Basque Autonomous Community's police force), significant progress has been made in the normalization of the use of Basque. Decree 30/1998, of 24 February, regulating the process of normalizing the use of Basque in the *Ertzaintza*, organized said language normalization process into ten-year planning periods, distributed in two five-year stages. The first planning period of the *Ertzaintza*'s language normalization process began in September 1998, and the latest one, presented in 2016, corresponds to the evaluation report of the fourth year of the second stage of the second planning period.

Decree 30/1998 established two Language Profiles applicable to positions in the *Ertzaintza*: Language Profile 1 (PL1) and Language Profile 2 (PL2). In 2012 these Language Profiles were adapted to the CEFR, and became equivalent to levels B2 and C1, respectively.

The latest evaluation shows that there are currently 3,154 members of the *Ertzaintza* who have PL1 or PL2, i.e. 42.4% of the staff. These data constitute a gradual improvement with regard to previous years, because according to the data of the 2008-2012 evaluation report, in 2012 the percentage of *Ertzaintza* members with PL1 or PL2 was 36.1%.

As regards *Osakidetza* (the Basque Autonomous Community's health service), it must be underlined that, after the finalization of its First Plan for Basque in 2012, a general evaluation was carried out to analyse the extent of compliance with the goals set forth both in the general Plan and in its adaptations implemented in each of its service units. Taking into account the results of that evaluation, the second period began, with *Osakidetza*'s Second Plan for Basque, aimed at consolidating the achievements made and, at the same time, drive the process towards new goals.

Osakidetza's Second Plan for Basque was published on 3 December 2013, and it will remain in force until 2019. Therefore, the organization is now carrying out the Plan's mid-term evaluation process, the results of which will be available in late 2017. However, the Second Plan for Basque is submitted to continuous internal evaluation through different mechanisms that make it possible to have reliable information about the extent to which the measures it contains are being implemented. In addition to the above-mentioned mid-term evaluation, two more evaluations are used: the Bikain evaluation, and the programme-contract (a basic document for communication with the Health Department). In 2016, the degree of compliance with the goals set forth in the programme-contract reached 73.2%, i.e. 6.81 points higher than the previous year's results.

The general description of *Osakidetza*'s current situation as regards language skills is as follows: The number of professionals who have the Language Profile required for their position is approximately 34%. The evolution observed in the number of *Osakidetza*'s bilingual professionals is very significant: in 2006, shortly after the First Plan for Basque was approved, the proportion was 11%, whereas now it is the above-mentioned 34%. In the past 10 years, the percentage has grown annually by 2% or 3%.

With regard to how the required Language Profile is obtained, it must be noted that the recognition of qualifications obtained outside *Osakidetza* is standard practice. This means that professionals already have the corresponding Language Profile before they enter *Osakidetza*.

This issue is related to the number of *Osakidetza* positions for which a Language Profile is mandatory, which are currently 37% of the total (9,874 positions). Some of the people in these positions have not yet accredited a Language Profile, so they have priority in accessing Basque learning processes. The number of professionals annually participating in these processes is approximately 2,500, both inside and outside working hours.

The measures contained in the Plan for Basque have been implemented through different actions, noteworthy among which are the following:

- Preferred language for oral communication: For those users who have selected Basque as their preferred language, *Osakidetza*'s current information systems include that language option next to their name in all the software applications. This means that the users in question wish to use Basque in their oral communication at healthcare centres. A public campaign has been launched, in collaboration with the Health Department, to inform the public of this option. The campaign not only tells the public that they can record their preferred language, but also how and where to do so, and the possibilities deriving from recording their option. It must be underlined that one of *Osakidetza*'s service units (OSI Debagoiena) promoted a local campaign, in collaboration with the municipalities in their area and with the groups working to foster Basque, to promote the recording of users' preferred language. The campaign has been quite successful: the percentage of users selecting Basque went from 5% in September 2015, to 11.9% in September 2016. As at 28 February 2017, of the 439,028 people who have recorded their preferred language for oral communication, 133,821 have chosen Basque.

- Bilingual clinical records: Despite their complexity, progress has been made in translating the clinical records used in healthcare (Osanaia and Osabide). Likewise, efforts have been made to standardize and adapt into Basque the laboratory reports issued by *Osakidetza*, a task that has involved significant consensus and translation work. In collaboration with the University of the Basque Country, a project has been started to translate into Basque the ICD-10 clinical standard codes, the international classification of diseases that is mandatory in all of Spain's healthcare systems. This collaborative work with the University of the Basque Country also includes the translation of the SNOMED CT ontology, for which Spain's Ministry of Health is responsible; therefore, an official request for translation was sent to said Ministry. Said request received a positive response, and three working sessions have already been held, in which the participants have learnt about SNOMED CT more in depth and laid the foundations for its adaptation into Basque.

As regards local administrations, most of the ones in Araba, Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa have either a Basque service with language normalization staff and translators or, particularly in the case of small entities, staff who do work related to language normalization and translation. In the case of smaller local entities, pooled services are used.

According to the latest evaluation report corresponding to the 2013-2017 planning period, carried out by the Basque Government's Deputy Department for Language Policy, it can be affirmed that public employees' language skills continue to be on the rise and, therefore, their capacity to perform their duties in Basque is also growing.

Noteworthy in this regard are the following general data on the degree of compliance with the language requirement for holding positions, taken from said evaluation report:

	Compliance with the level assigned to the position	Compliance with a level lower than that assigned to the position
Positions with a language requirement	80.2%	5.08%
Positions without a language requirement	23.6%	13.6%

b. the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;

Basque Act 10/1982, of 24 November, the Basic Act on the Normalization of the Use of Basque, recognizes as a fundamental language right that of communicating in Basque or in Castilian, orally or in writing, with the Administration or with any body or entity located in the Basque Autonomous Community.

Moreover, Decree 86/1997, regulating the normalization process of Basque in the public administrations of the Basque Autonomous Community, sets forth that the public authorities shall adopt the necessary measures to normalize the use of Basque.

In practice, in certain cases there may be difficulties in exercising this right to communicate orally in Basque, due, among other reasons, to a lack of language skills among civil servants. However, the administrations are giving absolute priority to serving the public, and therefore, every administration is adopting more and more measures aimed at guaranteeing people's language rights.

As regards written communication, the exercise of the right to communicate in Basque is practically guaranteed, due in part to the very nature of written communication, which makes it possible to use other resources, such as bilingual forms, translation services, etc.

The Deputy Department for Language Policy maintains the ELEBIDE service, created in 2006, and aimed at guaranteeing the protection of people's language rights. The channels it has for offering services are: hotline 012, website www.euskadi.eus/elebide, and email elebide@euskadi.eus.

Annually a considerable number of cases are addressed to this service. This does not mean that people's language rights are violated more often, but that people are becoming more aware of their language rights. The following table summarizes the evolution of the cases addressed to ELEBIDE from 2013 to 2016:

	2013	2014	2015	2016
COMPLAINTS	304	346	470	452
SUGGESTIONS	18	15	8	7
CONSULTATIONS	19	20	20	19
REQUESTS	8	11	271	66
TOTAL CASES	349	392	769	544

c. the publication by regional collectives of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages

Basque Act 10/1982 sets forth in Article 8.1 that any legislative provision or official decision emanating from the public authorities located in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country must be written in both languages for the purposes of official publicity. Pursuant to Article 13 of said Act, any official forms or models that are to be

used by the public authorities in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country must be written in both languages. These measures are currently being complied with in a general manner in the public administrations of the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country.

d. the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;

Please see what was explained in sub-paragraph c.

e. the use by regional collectives of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without however excluding use of the official language(s) of the State;

At the Basque Parliament and at its committees, there is freedom to use Basque or Castilian. The Regulation on the Basque Parliament states in Article 1: *“Basque and Castilian are the official languages of the Basque Parliament, and either may be used interchangeably. The Parliament’s official publications shall be bilingual.”* When the language used in Parliamentary debates is Basque, simultaneous interpretation services are used so that MPs who do not know Basque may follow the debates.

f. the use by local collectives of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without however excluding use of the official language(s) of the State;

In debates at *foral* and municipal assemblies there is freedom to communicate in Basque or in Castilian.

Spain’s Royal Decree 2568/1986, of 28 November, on the Regulation for the Organization, Functioning and Legal System of Local Entities, sets forth in Article 86:

“1. Calls for sessions, agendas, motions, dissenting votes, proposals for agreements, and decisions by advisory committees shall be written in Castilian or in the co-official language of the Autonomous Community to which the local entity belongs, pursuant to the applicable legislation and to the agreements adopted in this regard by the corresponding Corporation.

2. In debates, Castilian or the respective Autonomous Community’s co-official language may be used interchangeably.”

Recently approved Basque Act 2/2016, on the Basque Country’s Local Institutions, sets forth in Article 6.2:

Calls, agendas, motions, dissenting votes, proposals for agreements, decisions by advisory committees, agreements, and minutes by the bodies of local entities may be written in Basque. This possibility may exercised, in the aforementioned cases, providing that there is no violation of the rights of any member of the local entity who may validly claim lack of knowledge of Basque, without prejudice to the provisions of Act 10/1982, of 24 November, the Basic Act on Normalization of the Use of Basque. When decisions, minutes and agreements are written in Basque, copies or excerpts shall be sent in Basque to the Basque administration and to Spain’s national administration, pursuant to the provisions of the basic legislation on local government.

As in sub-paragraph e, when the language used in debates at *foral* and municipal assemblies is Basque, simultaneous interpretation services are used so that the people who do not know Basque may follow the debates.

g. the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.

Basque Act 10/1982 sets forth in Article 10.1 that the official name of the territories, municipalities, local entities, geographic features, urban streets and roads and, in general, all place names of the Basque Autonomous Community shall be established by the Basque Government, the *Foral* Bodies of the Historical Territories, or the Local Corporations, within the scope of their respective authority, respecting in any case the original Basque, Romance or Castilian names with the academic spelling pertaining to each language.

On 14 April 2016, Act 2/2016, of 7 April, on the Basque Country's Local Institutions, was published in the BOPV. Pursuant to this Act, municipalities are responsible for establishing the official nomenclature, and, in general, for regulating the procedure and approval of place names and names of geographic features in their territory and within their scope of authority, without prejudice to the provisions of Article 10 of Act 10/1982, of 24 November, the Basic Act on Normalization and Use of Basque, and any other legislation in force in this regard. The writing of said names shall be compliant with the academic rules of the corresponding language, and in the case of Basque, with the language rules in force established by the Royal Academy of the Basque Language (*Euskaltzaindia*).

Paragraph 3. With regard to public services provided by the administrative authorities or other persons acting on their behalf, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which regional or minority languages are used, in accordance with the situation of each language and as far as this is reasonably possible:

a. to ensure that the regional or minority languages are used in the provision of the service;

Basque Act 6/2003, on the Statute of Consumers and Users, sets forth in Article 38.2 that public entities shall guarantee the presence of both official languages in their communication with consumers and users.

Decree 233/2012, of 6 November, which established the inclusion of the perspective of normalization of the use of Basque in the drafting procedures of general provisions, regulates the inclusion of language terms and conditions in the execution of administrative contracts of the General Administration of the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country, its self-governing bodies and private-law public entities.

b. to ensure that users of regional or minority languages may submit oral or written applications and receive a reply in these languages;

As mentioned in the above sub-paragraphs, the public is entitled to submit applications in Basque in all cases. This is recognized by Basque Act 10/1982 in Articles 5.2.a), 6.1, and 9.1, and Basque Act 6/2003 on the Statute of Consumers and Users in Articles 37.b) and 38.3.

Paragraph 4. With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:

a. translation or interpretation as may be required;

As noted above, Act 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of the Public Administrations, sets forth in Article 15 that those interested parties addressing the General State Administration bodies that are located in the territory of an Autonomous Community may also use the co-official language of the former. In this case, the procedure shall be carried out in the interested party's language of choice. If several interested parties are participating in the procedure, and there is a discrepancy regarding the language used, the procedure shall be carried out in Castilian. However, any documents or statements required by the interested parties shall be issued in their language of choice.

It has also been noted that pursuant to Article 15.3 of said Act, the Public Administration carrying out the procedure must translate into Castilian any documents, dossiers, or parts thereof that are to be effective outside the territory of the Autonomous Community, and any documents addressed to interested parties who request this explicitly. If they are to be effective in the territory of an Autonomous Community where that same language, other than Castilian, is co-official, they shall not need to be translated.

As regards the Administration of the Autonomous Community, the *foral* historic territories, and the municipalities, Basque Act 10/1982 recognizes people's right to submit and receive documents in their official language of choice. If any translation is required, this must be borne by the corresponding Administration.

As regards the Basque Government's official translation service, and the certification of sworn translators and interpreters, there has been no change with regard to the information provided in the previous report.

b. recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;
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The Administrations of the Autonomous Community, of the *foral* historic territories, and of the municipalities, guarantee the hiring of staff with knowledge of Basque, which is mandatory in certain cases depending on each area's socio-linguistic context, and which is taken into consideration in all other cases. Pursuant to Decree 86/1997, the Governing Council approved, in Decision 1/2014 of 3 January, the General Plan for the Normalization of the Use of Basque in the Fifth Planning Period for the Basque Government and its self-governing bodies. Particularly relevant in this plan were the criteria for using the official languages.

In 2015, halfway through the Fifth Planning Period, the mid-term evaluation report has been presented. Noteworthy with regard to the prior planning period are the following advances:

- Plans for Language Normalization have been generally implemented in every Department and self-governing body.
- The degree of implementation in the other *foral* and local administrations is 85%.
- Implementation of plans for the use of Basque in small municipalities: most of these municipalities have a high density of Basque speakers, whose activity takes place mainly in Basque.
- As for the written language of service in the above-mentioned Administrations, the use of Basque is practically 100% guaranteed.

The spheres where the Plans for the Use of Basque are weakest and would need to be strengthened in the following planning period are:

- Promotion of Plans for the Use of Basque in public companies.

- As for offering spoken service in Basque, nearly 70% of institutions can generally communicate with the public in Basque. Moreover, in 80% of cases people who have chosen Basque as their language of communication receive their response in Basque. Therefore, measures need to be taken to guarantee the public's rights 100% in oral and in spoken communication.
- In 40% of the cases documents are also being created in Basque. The Basque Government is promoting the creation of documents in both languages in all of the Autonomous Community's administrations. Likewise, it is working to reduce dependence on translation services and promote the use of documents in both languages at the administrative services.
- Promotion of the use of oral and written Basque at the workplace.

As for teaching public service employees language skills, IVAP's programmes for teaching Basque to the local and *foral* administrations' staff remain in place, as well as those to teach Basque to the staff of the Autonomous Community's General Administration, of *Osakidetza*, and of the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU), as well as of other institutions, such as the Basque Parliament, the *Ararteko* (Ombudsman's Office), and the Basque Court of Auditors.

No. of students in Basque courses				
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
General Admin. Basque Autonomous Community	494	449	467	461
<i>Foral</i> Admin.	357	296	254	260
Local Admin.	561	583	558	592
<i>Osakidetza</i>	1214	1213	1192	1181
UPV/EHU	119	137	108	110
Others	15	19	14	8
TOTAL	2760	2697	2593	2612

In the case of the National Administration agencies and offices located in the Autonomous Community, INAP is carrying out training actions to improve the language skills of the national administration staff posted to the Basque Country, and for this purpose it has signed collaboration agreements with Basque institutions (for more information, see paragraph 1, sub-paragraph 1.a.i).

c. compliance as far as possible with requests from public service employees having a knowledge of a regional or minority language to be appointed in the territory in which that language is used.

Mobility of public employees of the Autonomous Community, *Foral* and Municipal Administrations is not an issue, because Basque is official in the entire territory of the Basque Autonomous Community. In the National Administration, knowledge of Basque is taken into consideration when assigning positions in the Basque Autonomous Community.

Paragraph 5. The Parties undertake to allow the use or adoption of family names in the regional or minority languages, at the request of those concerned.

The use or adoption of family names in Basque is guaranteed with no obstacles whatsoever. Moreover, Article 54 of Spain's Civil Registry Act, of 8 June 1957, allows interested parties, at their own request, to replace their given name with the equivalent in any other of Spain's languages.

Article 11. Media

Paragraph 1. The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:

As regards the situation in recent years, it is necessary to mention the effort made by the Basque Government to maintain, or at least to minimally reduce, the budget item aimed at covering the line of grants to media in Basque:

Year	Amount allocated for grants (€)	Applications submitted	Projects receiving grants
2013	4,875,000	135	118
2014	4,875,000	137	122
2015	4,962,225*	141	132
2016	4,875,000	135	124

(*What was left over from another grants call was used to increase the budget item for the call for media in Basque)

The latest call was published in 2016. It regulated and called for applications for grants aimed at the consolidation, penetration, development and normalization of media in Basque in the 2016-2018 period. The projects eligible for grants are:

Group A: Print media entirely in Basque whose main purpose is to offer daily information. Print media linked to daily and local affairs: daily newspapers and general information magazines, distributed in specific municipalities, areas or territories.

- a) Daily newspapers distributed throughout the entire Basque Autonomous Community.
- b) Daily newspapers distributed in specific municipalities or areas.
- c) General information magazines, distributed in specific municipalities, areas or territories.

Group B: Print media entirely in Basque whose main purpose is to address issues in depth beyond daily news: general information magazines or specialized magazines (philosophy, science, music, nature, children and young adults...) distributed throughout the entire Basque Autonomous Community.

Group C: Radio stations with the corresponding licences to operate in the Basque Autonomous Community broadcasting either entirely or in part in Basque.

Group D: TV stations with the corresponding licences to operate in the Basque Autonomous Community broadcasting either entirely or in part in Basque.

Group E: Internet-based media:

- Newspapers and magazines entirely in Basque.
- Radio stations broadcasting either entirely or in part in Basque.
- TV stations broadcasting either entirely or in part in Basque.

Since 2014, a new type of grants has been added, including on the one hand what used to be part of Group E news agencies in Basque, and on the other, the digital editions of print newspapers mainly in Castilian. The budget allocation is 400,000 euros.

a. i. to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission: to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages;

In the sphere of radio and television broadcasting, the public entity Basque Radio Television (EiTB) has four channels. EiTB has television broadcasts entirely in Basque on the channels ETB-1 and ETB-3. Channel ETB-2 broadcasts in Castilian, and ETB-4 is bilingual. ETB-1 and ETB-2 started broadcasting in High Definition (HD) in December 2016.

EiTB has a general radio channel (*Euskadi Irratia*) that broadcasts entirely in Basque. It also has a music and entertainment format radio channel aimed at young people (*Gaztea*) broadcasting entirely in Basque, and an adult contemporary music radio channel in Basque and Castilian (*EiTBmusika*). Radio stations Radio Euskadi and Radio Vitoria broadcast in Castilian.

On the internet, EiTB has the website *eitb.eus* that offers a news and current affairs channel predominantly in Basque. The website includes two channels with their own apps, entirely in Basque, aimed at children (HIRU3) and at young people (GAZTEA). All of these radio and television channels, as well as the online radio broadcasts on *eitb.eus*, also offer their programmes on demand, with the respective language profiles described above. Therefore, EiTB's on-demand service (EiTB NAHIERAN) has content in Basque and in Castilian.

RTVE, Spain's national public radio and television

Spain's Act 17/2006, of 5 June, on publicly owned radio and television, includes among its principles the promotion of pluralism and language diversity (Article 3.2.e). It must also be noted that, pursuant to consolidated case law, the right to receive radio and television broadcasts in Basque must be guaranteed by all public authorities, without exception, in the territory of the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country (Basque Act 10/1082, Article 5), and therefore, by RTVE in territorial broadcasts in the Autonomous Community.

b. i. to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages;

Radio broadcasting:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 19.3 of the Basque Country's Statute of Autonomy, "the Basque Country may regulate, create and maintain its own television, radio, and press, and, in general, all the social communication media for the achievement of its purposes." Pursuant to said Article, the Basque Country is responsible for the legislation to implement Spain's basic provisions on social communication media.

Having been granted this authority by law, the Autonomous Community has created its own legal system for radio broadcasting, without prejudice to the provisions of Spain's national law.

In this regard, the Governing Council, at its session of 8 November 2011, approved the Decree on audiovisual communication. The scope of application of said Decree extend to those media of a commercial, community-based or public nature, whose territorial scope of coverage does not overstep that of the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country. The Decree set forth the requirement that new licences be granted by public tender, and included the minimum elements of the terms and conditions of such tenders.

An Order of 29 February 2012 of the Culture Department Head called a public tender for granting radio broadcasting licences, resulting from the fact that 34 frequencies had been made available by Royal Decree 964/2006, of 1 September, which approved the National Technical Plan for Radio Broadcasting using Frequency-Modulated Metric Waves. To date, a total of 17 licences have been granted, and their effective launch is currently pending the finalization of the corresponding process at the competent national body. In this regard, the licences granted, pursuant to the requirements set forth in the aforementioned applicable Basque legislation and the terms and conditions of the tender itself, shall lead to launching radio broadcasting services with diverse percentages of content in Basque in all cases (50% for 5 of the licences, 70% to 80% for 2 licences, and 100% for 10 licences).

c. i. to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages;

The current status of licences for local terrestrial television services dates back to the definitive awards granted by Order of 10 October 2007, of the Culture Department Head. Licenses were awarded to a total of 31 television channels, whose holders undertook to comply with the established language requirements. Thus, it is guaranteed that in each of the 15 districts at least one of the local television stations will broadcast entirely in Basque, and that the presence of Basque will be guaranteed in all channels to a varying extent.

None of the nationwide private TV channels (Antena 3, Cuatro, Tele 5, La Sexta, Canal+...) offers broadcasts in Basque, and there are no private TV channels in the Basque Autonomous Community.

Act 7/2010, the General Audiovisual Communication Act, of 31 March, sets forth in Transitional Provision Ten, under the heading "Review of the planning and the awards to manage local hertzian-wave television stations", that within 18 months starting from the Act's entry into force, the National Radiocommunications Agency, together with the Autonomous Communities, would review in six months the National Technical Plan for Local Televisions in order to rationalize their content. Until said review is completed, the competent audiovisual authorities shall refrain from calling and awarding public tenders to grant licences to manage local televisions.

The current situation is a result of the above: the existence of possible vacant licences does not, therefore, stem from the absence of the corresponding tender, but from the absence of the legally established review of the National Technical Plan for Local Televisions.

d. to encourage and/or facilitate the production and distribution of audio and audiovisual works in the regional or minority languages;

A series of grants exist to encourage audiovisual production and distribution.

The following grants have been awarded within the line of grants for audiovisual creation, development and production between 2013 and 2016:

- €1,496,000 in 2013
- €1,800,000 in 2014
- €1,796,526 in 2015
- €1,800,000 in 2016

These grants are for all audiovisual works, including Basque and Castilian.

Grants for promoting and advertising feature-length fiction, animation and documentary films started to be awarded in 2007. Since 2012, these grants have been managed by the Zineuskadi Association, and 150,000 euros have been granted every year during the 2013-2016 period, except in 2014, in which the grants awarded did not reach the total budget due to a lack of projects (only 80,128.86 euros were awarded)

Lastly, grants for scriptwriting amounted to:

- €142,200 in 2013
- €142,200 in 2014
- €142,200 in 2015
- €141,400 in 2016

On 27 November 2007, the Basque Government approved Decree 215/2007, on the obligation for television operators to invest in and broadcast feature-length and short films as well as films made for television. Article 1.4 of this Decree sets forth the obligation of allocating 30% of investments to works originally produced in Basque. By virtue of this Decree, in 2008 EITB signed a collaboration agreement with the Basque Country Association of Independent Producers which expired in December 2015, although EITB continued to implement it throughout the period.

In this collaboration framework, EITB made the following investments in the 2013-2016 period:

- 2013: total investment €6,158,198 € / investment in production in Basque €3,058,803 (49.67%)
- 2014: total investment €5,154,500 / investment in production in Basque €3,260,918 (63.26%)
- 2015: total investment €4,777,248 / investment in production in Basque €2,140,119 (44.79%)
- 2016: total investment €6,046,328 / investment in production in Basque €3,526,012 (58.31%)

Moreover, films originally produced in Castilian are broadcast on EITB in Basque after dubbing. EITB's usual policy is to participate in the acquisition of the public communication rights of feature-length films in Basque.

Collaboration has also been taking place for a long time with ONCE (Spain's National Organization of the Blind), to bring Basque closer to people with visual impairments. A collaboration agreement was signed with ONCE in 2006 aimed at facilitating access to audio versions of works of Basque literature. This collaboration is repeated yearly. To date, 677 works have been adapted:

2013: 40 books (€25,000)

2014: 55 books (€28,600)

2015: 55 books (€28,600)

2016: 55 books (€28,600)

In 2010, the Directorate for the Promotion of Culture made a new grants call for cinemas: the first grants call for copies of EU and Ibero-American films to be shown at cinemas. These grants were refocused in 2011, with a grants call for the digitization of cinemas. In 2012, they once again became grants for copies of EU and Ibero-American films to be shown at cinemas, this time managed by the Zineuskadi Association. One of the principal criteria for awarding these grants is their screening in Basque.

In 2013, projects were given points as follows:

- a) For each screening of a film in its original version in Basque: 12 points.
- b) Film in an original language other than Basque: 8 points.
- c) Film dubbed in Basque, originally in another language: 10 points.
- d) EU or Ibero-American film that is not in its original version: 4 points.

YEAR	BUDGET	Number of screens
2013	€150,000	26 screens
2014	€160,000 (with an extra €10,000 for screenings within the <i>Zinema Euskaraz</i> [Cinema in Basque] programme)	28 screens
2015	€160,000 (with an extra €10,000 for screenings within the <i>Zinema Euskaraz</i> programme)	31 screens
2016	€160,000 (with an extra €10,000 for screenings within the <i>Zinema Euskaraz</i> programme)	34 screens

e. i. to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages;

By virtue of the Order regulating and calling for applications for grants aimed at the consolidation, development and normalization of media in Basque, the newspaper BERRIA, printed entirely in Basque and distributed throughout the geographic scope of the Basque language, receives a financial grant on an annual basis. In 2013-2016 the BERRIA newspaper received a total of €5,379,245.

Year	Grant awarded
2013	€1,510,180
2014	€1,301,963
2015	€1,292,150
2016	€1,274,952
Total	€5,379,245

In the framework of the call referred to in “Measures Paragraph 1”, in the section on daily newspapers printed entirely in Basque, newspapers distributed throughout the geographic scope of the Basque language and those distributed in certain municipalities or areas were awarded €3,922,755 in the 2013-2016 period.

Year	Grant awarded
2013	€309,820
2014	€1,222,037

2015	€1,231,850
2016	€1,159,048
Total	€3,922,755

f. ii. to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;

Noteworthy here is the Glocal Cinema initiative, resulting from the line of work that the Basque Government's Department of Education, Language Policy and Culture launched in 2014 to promote networks of cinematography produced in non-hegemonic languages (such as Basque) in order for European counterparts to share knowledge of key issues such as harmonization between a minority language option and an international, cosmopolitan outlook. Thus, countries and regions that meet on this network share experiences and explore new forms of co-production and distribution. Glocal has become a network to promote cinema in each country's own language, an open window for the internationalization of films made in non-hegemonic languages.

g. to support the training of journalists and other staff for media using regional or minority languages.

Training for journalists continues to be financed in grants calls aimed at media in Basque. We must also note that at the University of the Basque Country it is now possible to study for a degree in Journalism entirely in Basque.

Paragraph 2. The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

Radio and television broadcasts in the Autonomous Community of the Basque Country are in compliance with the authorized technical parameters. Any prohibitions that may be established are based on safety and security measures, civil aviation, or interferences with other authorized broadcasts.

Article 20 of the Spanish Constitution on freedom of expression is respected and complied with by all of the written press. This is included in the terms and conditions of the call referred to in "Measures Paragraph 1".

Paragraph 3. The Parties undertake to ensure that the interests of the users of regional or minority languages are represented or taken into account within such

bodies as may be established in accordance with the law with responsibility for guaranteeing the freedom and pluralism of the media.

Please see above. This is included in the terms and conditions of the call referred to in "Measures Paragraph 1".

Article 12 – Cultural activities

Paragraph 1. With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:

a. to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;

The Basque Country's Department of Culture and Language Policy annually grants the "Euskadi" Literary Awards. Four of their seven modalities (literature in Basque, children and young adult literature in Basque, literary translation into Basque, and non-fiction in Basque) award the best literary work in its category among those published the previous year.

Also on an annual basis, grants are awarded to promote publishing in Basque within the Basque Autonomous Community, in particular the Durango Book and Record Fair and the different Book Fairs in the Basque Country's major towns.

Through the annual grants call for literary publishing, €511,800 has been granted. The aim of these grants is to promote the publishing of literature in Basque, by helping to finance the annual publishing plans of publishing companies.

The Libraries Service carries out two actions aimed at fostering the use of Basque in public life:

- Bilingual authorities records. The public libraries' catalogues include bibliographic information about the Basque Country's authors and works.
- General support. All libraries are annually sent a set of approximately 350 books in Basque.

Another series of grants aims to promote the writing and production of plays.

1. Grants for playwriting: The following grants have been awarded within the line of grants for playwriting between 2013 and 2016:

- €52,800 in 2013 (€26,400 for plays written in Basque)
- €52,800 in 2014 (€26,400 for plays written in Basque)
- €52,800 in 2015 (€26,400 for plays written in Basque)
- €52,000 in 2016 (€26,000 for plays written in Basque)

2. Grants for producing plays: The following grants have been awarded within the four modalities of grants for the production of plays (creative residency, production, production with concerted tour, and biennial activity) between 2013 and 2016:

- €730,000 in 2013

- €787,500 in 2014

- €787,500 in 2015

- €787,500 in 2016

In all cases, these figures refer to all grants awarded, both for Basque and for Castilian.

One of the criteria for awarding these grants is the presence of Basque in the production submitted: up to 10% of the total points are awarded for the use of Basque in a production.

Lastly, one of the modalities of grants for production allocates €25,000 of the total budget—which is €150,000—as an incentive for producing plays with a version in Basque.

The Basque Government collaborates financially and materially with cultural entities with great strategic influence in the field of Basque and of Basque culture, with the aim of compiling, normalizing, generating and disseminating Basque language and culture, both inside and outside the Basque Country, by signing regular agreements to allocate grants enabling these entities to work in said fields. These entities are:

- EIZIE: Association of Basque Translators and Interpreters
- Topagunea: Federation of Basque Language Associations
- UNESCO Etxea: UNESCO Centre in the Basque Country
- Euskaltzaindia: Royal Academy of the Basque Language
- EHBE: Association of *Bertsolaris* of the Basque Country
- Labayru Institute: Basque Culture Study Centre
- Galtzagorri Association: Association of Children's and Young Adult Literature in Basque
- Basque Language Institute of the University of the Basque Country: Work involving lexicography and grammar, and terminology seminars
- TOKIKOM: Basque Media Association
- ONCE: Spain's National Organization of the Blind. Technical adaptation of literary works in Basque so that they may be enjoyed by people with visual impairments
- Mintzola Foundation: Research centre of reference for communication in Basque

b. to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

The Etxepare Basque Institute of the Basque Country's Administration annually offers specific grants for publishing translations into other languages of literary works originally written in Basque or in Castilian by authors residing in the Basque Autonomous Community. between 2013 and 2016, €39,000 were allocated annually for this purpose, and in that period, 17, 16, 18 and 17 translations were awarded grants in each respective year.

c. to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities

Since 1990, the Basque Government has signed agreements annually with the EIZIE Association of Basque Translators and Interpreters, for the purpose of translating the “Literatura Unibertsala” (universal literature) collection into Basque. Thanks to these agreements, the most representative works of universal literature (152 works by 2011) were translated and published in Basque. A new phase of the translation of this collection began in 2011, aimed at publishing four books per year, up to a total of 50 works. As at May 2017, 18 have been published (in addition to the previous 152). Moreover, 2010 saw the launching of the “Urrezko Biblioteka” (Golden Library) project, aimed at reviewing and republishing 20 of the first 100 works published in the previous collection. As at May 2017, 15 of these 20 books have been published.

In 2015, the Universal Literature Corpus (LUC) was created, aimed especially at professionals and researchers, with the purpose of steadily uploading the works published in the above-mentioned “Literatura Unibertsala” collection. To date, 107,804 phrases and 2,371,083 words have been uploaded, corresponding to works written in English, French and Basque.

Lastly, in 2016 the bases were established to expand the offer of universal literature works in epub format, free of charge and for unlimited time. So far, 60 works are available in said format.

The Basque Government also offers grants to foster the commercial release of feature-length films dubbed or subtitled in Basque, as well as to ensure the presence of audiovisual productions on DVD dubbed or subtitled in Basque in DVD shops, bookshops and other commercial circuits. Recent figures in this regard are:

Year	Feature-length films dubbed in Basque
2013	9 (+ 4 documentaries)
2014	10 (+ 3 documentaries)
2015	12 (+ 2 documentaries)
2016	13 (+ 1 documentary)

d. to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing

The Basque Government, through its Deputy Department for Language Policy, annually publishes a grants call for the promotion, dissemination and/or normalization of Basque in society. The projects eligible for grants are:

- Projects aimed at promoting and consolidating the use of Basque in informal spheres, in particular those relating to leisure activities.
- Projects and initiatives aimed at bringing Basque closer to non-Basque-speaking Basque adults and immigrants.
- Projects aimed at consolidating the transmission of Basque in households.
- Projects aimed at compiling, safeguarding or digitizing, and disseminating information on Basque language heritage.
- Seminars aimed at analysing different aspects directly related to Basque.
- Projects aimed at paying tribute to persons and groups whose work in favour of Basque has been outstanding.
- Projects aimed at encouraging reading habits in Basque.

Year	Amount in €	Projects receiving grants
2013	979,200	136

2014	979,200	131
2015	979,200	130
2016	979,200	134

e. to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;

The Basque Autonomous Community's public administrations, as organizers or supporters of cultural activities, insert among the characteristics of each of their staff positions a Language Profile, which defines the Basque language level necessary to hold each position. They do not have the authority to determine the Language Profile of staff positions at non-public entities, among them those organizing or supporting cultural activities.

f. to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;

The Basque Autonomous Community's public administrations take diverse measures to facilitate and promote citizen participation in general in the services and programmes of cultural activities, without aiming them specifically at Basque speakers. In any case, these promotion activities take place at least in Basque.

g. to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages

The Basque Country Library Network performs these duties with regard to books and other printed materials. The Basque Film Library performs similar duties with materials on film and video.

The Basque Government collaborates on research into and normalization of literary production in the different variants of Basque, given the importance of these variants for the normalization and implementation of the different registers of Basque and, consequently, for the comprehensive development of the language. To this end, it signs agreements for material and financial collaboration with the Labayru Institute, which has been working steadily in this sphere since its creation in 1970. Throughout its history, it has collected a wealth of documents (books, brochures, photographs, etc.), which form part of its library, the "Euskal Biblioteka" (Basque Library), which currently holds 54,148 books, 4,900 periodicals, 14,720 brochures, 1,797 cultural heritage videos, 508 audios from the Oral Archives, and 1,636 DVDs from the Batarrita Archive. Even though it was given the name "Basque Library" at its inception, today it is a comprehensive Documentation Centre with information recorded on all types of media.

h. if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and

developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.

The Basque Public Terminology Bank was created in 2001, built on the foundation of EUSKALTERM (www.euskadi.eus/euskalterm). The Bank currently holds 166,489 terms in Basque, 152,530 in Castilian, 106,791 in French, 95,650 in English, and 5,778 in Latin, and it receives more than 100,000 queries each month.

In July 2013, the Basque Government's Deputy Department for Language Policy and IVAP signed an agreement to update and provide input for the EUSKALTERM Public Terminology Bank. Later, in March 2014, the Basque Government signed a four-year contract with the UZEI Centre (Basque Terminology and Lexicography Centre) to perform these duties.

Moreover, the Special Commission on Terminology of the Basque Language Advisory Council has approved 24 dictionaries, which have been included in the EUSKALTERM Public Terminology Bank and have also been published in print form.

As regards translation services, the Basque Government has an Official Translation Service, which provides translation and interpretation services from Castilian into Basque and from Basque into Castilian to the public administrations and to the general public.

Paragraph 2. In respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage and/or provide appropriate cultural activities and facilities in accordance with the preceding paragraph.

The *Euskal Etxeak* (Basque Centres) offer, together with HABE, Basque language courses and activities involving Basque culture.

EUSKAL ETXEAK	2013/2014		
	Teachers	Students	Grant
Barcelona	5	114	20,651.16
Madrid	4	138	24,194.46
Murcia	1	25	3,480.76
Palma de Mallorca	1	22	2,194.53
Valencia CVN	1	16	1,975.11
Valladolid	1	16	2,319.95
Valencia Euskaltzaleok	3	29	3,104.00
La Rioja Laminiturri	-	-	-

Total	16	360	57,919.97
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EUSKAL ETXEAK	2015/2016		
	Teachers	Students	Grant
Barcelona	5	147	20,202.00
Madrid	4	137	23,226.00
Murcia	1	25	3,496.50
Palma de Mallorca	1	17	2,730.00
Valencia CVN	1	18	2,268.00
Valencia Euskaltzaleok	3	29	3,307.50
Valladolid	1	18	2,331.00
La Rioja Laminiturri	1	17	2,142.00
Zaragoza	-	-	-
Total	17	408	59,703.00

EUSKAL ETXEAK	2013/2014		
	Teachers	Students	Grant
Paris	4	59	6,875.09
Bordeaux	4	59	6,305.82
Pau	3	34	1,869.27
Rome	2	42	4,361.84
London	1	30	2,948.02
Berlin	1	17	2,708.73
Brussels	2	11	1,386.00
Total	17	252	26,454.77

EUSKAL ETXEAK	2015/2016		
	Teachers	Students	Grant
Paris	4	66	9,324.00
Bordeaux	4	61	6,394.50
Pau	3	32	3,696.00
Rome	2	50	4,536.00
London	1	40	3,307.50
Berlin	1	17	3,780.00
Brussels	2	19	2,205.00
Total	17	285	33,243.00

Paragraph 3. The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect

As regards Spain's national level, please see the information provided with regard to Instituto Cervantes (IC) in the section dedicated to Article 8 (Education).

As regards the Basque Autonomous Community level:

Basque Parliament Act 3/2007, of 20 April, created the Etxepare Basque Institute, whose principal mission is to disseminate and promote Basque language and culture worldwide.

Principal lines of action

Presence in international trade fairs:

- The Etxepare Basque Institute is present in Europe's major language fairs, in which it focuses on the dissemination of Basque and has the opportunity to share experiences with other languages and establish new ties. Specifically, in 2014 it participated in the London Language Show in London, and in 2015, in Expolangues in Paris. The LANGUNE language industry cluster was invited to share a stand with the Institute in said fairs. In parallel, the Institute also organized all kinds of cultural events to raise awareness of Basque language and culture in the framework of said fairs.
- The Institute and Basque productions are also present in international fairs specializing in books (Frankfurt, the FIL in Guadalajara, Liber, the London Book Fair), in audiovisual productions (MIPTV, and Zuñi Side of the Doc, in collaboration with EIKEN), and in music (Womex, and Mercat de Música Viva in Vic, together with the Euskadiko Soinuak programme). Just for reference, between 2014-2016 the Institute took Basque and Basque productions to an average of 13 major international fairs.
- The Etxepare Basque Institute also publishes an annual grants call to ensure that publishers and authors of music, whether expressed or not in Basque, may go to international music fairs. This same call also provides an incentive for authors and producers of documentary, fiction and animation films, whose soundtrack may be expressed or not in Basque, to go to international audiovisual production fairs. There are also grants calls to foster presence at fine arts fairs.
- The Etxepare Basque Institute promotes catalogues such as the "10 Basque Writers", with the ten best literary works published each year in Basque. It delivers materials and holds interviews with publishers, agents and scouts from all over the world.

Grants, agreements and joint lines of work:

- Noteworthy among the Instituto's grants calls aimed at subsidizing the dissemination of Basque culture are the grants awarded annually to support professional activities involving the dissemination of Basque culture outside our Autonomous Community.
- In the sphere of literature, the Etxepare Basque Institute publishes, also annually, a grants call to subsidize literary translation from the official languages of the Basque Country into other languages of the world.
- The Institute also publishes a call to provide creators in the fields of literature and cinema with support for travel and accommodation expenses so that Basque productions may be present in major professional festivals and forums.
- Another of the Institute's lines of work focuses on collaboration with different entities and institutions so as to co-produce and implement cultural programmes throughout the world. Thus, on the one hand stable agreements and collaboration have

been established with Basque institutions and institutions outside the Basque country, to support said entities' activities. On the other, joint agreements and lines of work are established with international events and festivals, to guarantee the presence of Basque artists, creations and productions in said events and festivals. Thanks to these forms of collaboration, some of these international forums are also paying specific attention to Basque culture (e.g. the "Basque Window" section at film festivals, and the "Basque Country as a guest" at music and theatre festivals=.

- In the audiovisual sphere, the Institute is also working together with the Basque Film Library on the international promotion of the "Kimuak" programme, which offers the best short films produced in the Basque Autonomous Community.

Co-productions, productions and cultural collaborations

- In order to promote the dissemination and visibility of Basque language and culture worldwide, the Etxepare Basque Institute also produces, co-produces or supports cultural programmes both in international academia and at forums considered strategic. These programmes include diverse activities, such as exhibitions, round tables, music, and audiovisual displays. Noteworthy among those carried out from 2014 to 2016 are: artistic residencies; participation of Basque authors in literary festivals in cities such as Wroclaw, Zagreb, Dublin and London; exhibitions such as GAUR SIC and SOKA; Conference on the massacre of Basque whalers in Iceland; and different performances of works such as Komunikazioa-Inkomunikazioa and Ohiberritze in the festivals of reference in Buenos Aires and Paris, respectively.

Network of assistantships in Basque language and culture

- In the academic world, the Instituto has a significant network of assistants in Basque language and culture at universities outside the geographic scope of Basque. The Assistantship Programme in Basque language and culture is managed through an agreement signed between the Etxepare Institute and the universities. Each university offers (depending on each case) diploma courses and specializations in Basque language and culture. The Etxepare Institute undertakes to collaborate financially with the development of the programme and to offer teaching advice and materials. In addition to teaching, the assistants of the Etxepare Basque Institute's network organize, throughout the year, different activities to dynamize and promote awareness of Basque language and culture. The Etxepare Basque Institute currently has collaboration agreements with 34 universities in 18 countries (22 in Europe, 11 in America and one in Asia). Moreover, in recent academic years, the Etxepare Basque Institute has offered grants for the assistants' students so that they can learn Basque language and culture in different *barnetegis* in the Basque Country.
- In the academic years from 2013 to 2016, the collaboration agreement between the Etxepare Basque Institute and the University of the Basque Country has remained in force, to offer the summer course "Excellence in Basque Studies", aimed at training the university assistants teaching Basque language and culture at foreign universities so that they may update their knowledge in the field of Basque Studies and of the latest methodology.
- Moreover, the Etxepare Basque Institute and the University of the Basque Country have offered, in 2014, 2015 and 2016, the "Teacher Training Course for Teachers of Basque as a Foreign Language", which has trained more than 100 people.

Chairs at international universities:

The Etxepare Basque Institute has also created, between 2014 and 2016, three chairs in Basque studies:

- The Jon Bilbao Chair was launched in 2014. This Chair, located at the University of Nevada, Reno (USA), has the purpose of promoting internationally research and

knowledge of the Basque diaspora and Basque culture. During the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 academic years, the Chair was held by Deusto University professor Pedro J. Oiarzabal, who carried out the “Memoria Bizia” [“Living Memory”] project. “Memoria Bizia” is a research project aimed at collecting, preserving and disseminating the oral memories and histories of those who left their homeland, as well as the histories of their descendants, born in the country where they resettled, focusing on the United States and Canada.

- The Manuel Irujo Chair, at the University of Liverpool (UK), has been functioning since 2015. The Chair is dedicated to the history and politics of the Basque Country in general, and to Basque exile in particular, and promotes their study and research. In 2015, Xabier Irujo was the Visiting Professor, and seminars were held that year on diverse Basque political issues, with outstanding participation by professors and other members of different universities. In the 2015-2016 academic year, the Visiting Professor was Nerea Arruti, from the University of the Basque Country. She explored hybrid and contemporary artistic production in the Basque Country in a seminar with the participation of filmmakers, writers, art critics and scholars, in which films and poetry readings were combined with an analysis and discussion of current artistic practices.
- The William A. Douglass Chair was launched in autumn of 2016, with the purpose of disseminating Basque anthropology and culture. William A. Douglass, one of the most outstanding scholars in Basque culture and society, and the founder of the Center for Basque Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno, delivered the opening talk. Also participating in the seminar, called “Basque Studies, and the Anthropology of Europe”, were scholars Joseba Zulaika, Caroline Brettel, Sharon Roseman, and Susan Carol Rogers.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Paragraph 1. With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:

a. to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;

Basque legislation does not have any provisions prohibiting or limiting the use of the Basque language. Quite the opposite: Act 10/1982, of 24 November, on the Normalization of the Use of Basque, recognizes people’s language rights, and assigns obligations to the public authorities with regard to the protection of those rights.

The implementation of those rights has been carried out as follows:

1. Promotion and grants from the public authorities, to establish plans for the use of Basque in private companies and in the public administrations. An Order of the Head of the Culture and Language Policy Department regulated the awarding of grants for implementing plans for the use of Basque in private-sector workplaces located in the Basque Autonomous Community (the LanHitz grants). Likewise, in the 2015 and 2016 grants calls, part of the budget was allocated to fostering the use of Basque by certified professionals in their professional activity.

Moreover, a pilot plan has been launched for a three-year period (2015-2017), aimed at fostering the use of Basque as a working language in industrial companies in the Basque Autonomous Community (the EUSLAN grants). Twelve companies are participating in this project, to which 904,293 euros have been allocated.

2. Fourth Plan for the Language Normalization of the Basque Public Administrations. Pursuant to Decree 86/1997, of 15 April, the Fourth five-year planning period (2008-2012) began in 2008. Please see what was explained in Article 10, paragraph 4, subparagraph b.

3. Act 6/2003, of 22 December, on the Statute of Consumers and Users. Chapter 6 of Title 2 addresses the language rights of consumers and users. Furthermore, Decree 123/2008 on the language rights of consumers and users implements the aforementioned Act.

In this regard, and with a view to moving forward in this direction, in the 2014-2016 period the Basque Language has implemented the following programmes:

- Collaboration agreement for the promotion of the use of Basque between the Basque Government and the companies Carrefour Norte SL, El Corte Inglés SA, Eroski SCOOP, Fnac SA, Forum Sport SA, Inditex SA, Media Markt SA, Mercadona SA, UVESCO SA, and Supermercados Sabeco SA (SIMPLY), signed in 2016, in which the signatories express their will to define and consolidate their collaboration in the sphere of people's language rights. They also undertake to guarantee in their respective areas of action the language rights recognized under prevailing legislation in their relations with their customers.
- Order of 11 November 2015, of the Head of the Education, Language Policy and Culture Department, regulating the awarding of grants for the 2015-2016, for the purpose of translating variable signage into Basque and teaching Basque language skills to the staff of the major retail outlets of the Basque Autonomous Community. By means of this grants call, a total of 500,000 euros have been awarded for this purpose.
- Also in 2016, a system for managing, disseminating and collecting translations into Basque for retail outlets has been designed and launched.

4. BIKAIN: Basque Language Quality Certificate. The Department for Language Policy presented the BIKAIN certificate in December 2007. The purpose of this certificate is to accredit a specific level of use, presence and management of Basque by an organization in the socio-economic sphere of the Basque Country. This certificate may be obtained by organizations accrediting a minimum level of presence, use and management of Basque, according to the criteria of an evaluation system created to this end. The external evaluation is conducted by the Bikain Evaluators Club. There are three levels of certification: Basic Certificate, Silver Certificate, and Gold Certificate.

The BIKAIN certificates were awarded for the first time on 10 November 2008. From 2008 to 2012, 121 companies received BIKAIN certificates. As at 2016, a total of 313 entities have received a BIKAIN certificate. These are the results of the evaluations conducted in the 2008-2016 period:

Period	Entities with a Basic Certificate (basic level)	Entities with a Silver Certificate (intermediate level)	Entities with a Gold Certificate (advanced level)	Total entities with a BIKAIN certificate
2008-2012	32	50	39	121
2013-2016	33	78	81	192
Total 2008-2016	65	128	120	313

Specifically, in the 2016 call, 57 entities applied for BIKAIN's external evaluation, and 53 entities were evaluated.

b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;

Please see what was explained in Article 10, paragraph 3, sub-paragraph a.

c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;

As was already stated in sub-paragraph a, Act 10/1982, the Basic Act on the Normalization of the Use of Basque, paved the way for implementing language policy initiatives to restore knowledge and use of Basque in society's basic spheres, while granting Basque the necessary institutional protection. This Act recognizes people's language rights and assigns obligations to the public authorities with regard to the protection of those rights. Article 5 of Title 1 sets forth the "right to carry out professional, labour, political and trade union activities in Basque", and the "right to express oneself in Basque at any gathering".

d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.

It is necessary to make efforts in this regard, both in communication and in awareness-raising. It will also be crucial for institutions and other agents to agree upon and coordinate the efforts being made to use Basque in workplace practices.

It is necessary to adopt measures to bring the educational system (especially vocational training) and the business world closer together from a language perspective, mainly by promoting the possibility of students carrying out internships in Basque.

Section 1.3 on the framework of action of the Fourth Basque Plan for Vocational Training establishes, among other things, the following:

- *Basque Language Strategic Agenda. The purpose of the Agenda is to define, in a cross-cutting manner, through the different Departments and/or approved Plans, the actions to be taken by the Basque Government during this term of parliament in the sphere of language policy.*

To this end, specific lines promoted in previous years by the Deputy Department for Language Policy shall be merged with the different plans and programmes for the promotion of the use of Basque in different spheres of the Basque Government itself, in order to guarantee the cross-cutting nature of language policy recognized in the 2012-2016 Basque Government programme, and to obtain a general, comprehensive view of all initiatives aimed at promoting Basque.

And this continues in section 1.5:

1.5 Implement a multilingual model paying particular attention to Basque, promote continuous support for the acquisition of other languages.

- Increase the offer of courses in Basque in vocational training, strengthening Model D and planning the implementation of Model B (the bilingual model), as stated in the 2013-2016 Basque Language Strategic Agenda published by the Basque Government on 24 June 2014.

- Develop a trilingual model by strengthening the offer of vocational training courses in Basque and promoting the acquisition of a third language, preferably English, to strengthen our students' employability and professional development.

Finally, section 4.1 sets forth:

Finally, to create cross-cutting working spheres, the incorporation of criteria for promoting gender equality and the use of Basque shall be fostered. The representatives of these spheres shall be invited to participate in this Commission or to

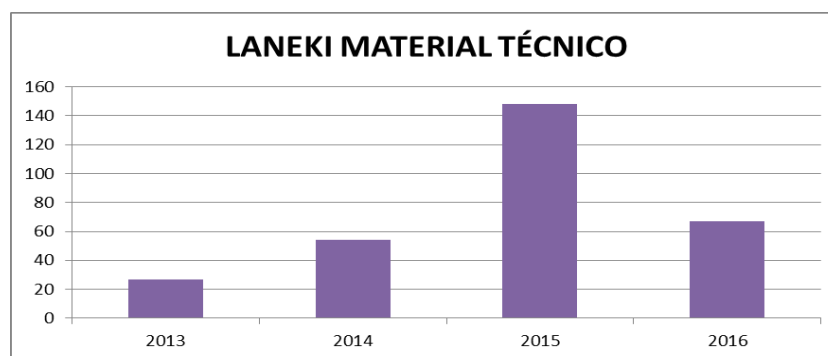
submit their considerations regarding the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Fourth Plan for Vocational Training, while it is in force.

In accordance with these guidelines, the Deputy Department for Vocational Training has set forth 5 general lines:

- Establishment of Model B
- Increased offer of courses in Models D and B
- LANEKI-Jakinbai.eus: teaching materials and technical dictionaries for vocational training
- LANPRES Guide: guide and resources for carrying out internships in Basque
- Promotion of internships in Basque

Jakinbai, a labour initiative: the Deputy Department for Vocational Training has been promoting, since 2001, the production of teaching materials and technical dictionaries in Basque in 22 professional specializations, so that they may be used both in vocational training and in the workplace. The LANEKI association is responsible for disseminating these materials in vocational training schools and in companies, through a catalogue published annually. In total, there are 806 technical publications in Basque, 24 of which specifically link internships, the business world and Basque.

The evolution of teaching materials in Basque in the 2013-2016 has been as follows:



Lanpres Guide:

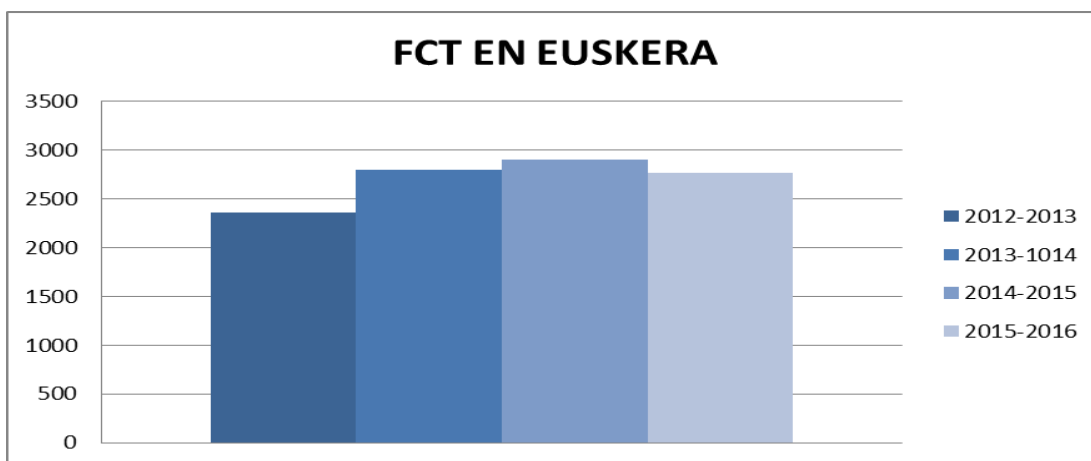
This guide on labour practices and internships in Basque, together with 24 new documents that have been sent to the companies where the internships take place, is aimed at the business world and has been promoted by the Deputy Department for Vocational Training. The companies participating in the Euslan project provided advice for producing the Guide, and 145 people attended its presentation. This policy has fostered the creation of socio-economic forums all around the Basque Country, with the participation of vocational training schools, public institutions, and business association, and with the main goal of promoting Basque. In one year, the Guide has been downloaded 210 times.

The intention is to continue this same line in 2017, with another two publications: Lanpres Guide and Lanenpres Guide, which is the second version of the former. It will offer guidance and resources for internships in companies and for dual vocational training in Basque.

Training at the Workplace (FCT)

Vocational training students need to carry out internships in order to complete their education and earn the corresponding degree. Every year, approximately 13,000 students participate in 9,000 companies. Students in Model D have the above-mentioned guides and resources in order to carry out their FCT in Basque. Different campaigns are also organized for students and companies, in collaboration with other

institutions such as: Laneki, Osakidetza, Banaiz-Bagara, *Foral* Councils, and Municipal Councils. Thanks to these efforts, certain students carry out their internships in Basque. The following chart shows the evolution in this area:



FCT IN BASQUE	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
TOTAL	2356	2799	2901	2766

Challenges lie ahead in coming years, because the aim is for 7,000 students to be in dual vocational training by 2020. To this end, new campaigns are being designed, through the Deputy Department's website, through dual vocational training, and through an increased offer of Model D.

With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible:

a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;

Decree 123/2008, on the language rights of consumers and users, sets forth in Article 10 the language obligations in documents from financial and credit institutions.

In this regard, a collaboration agreement was signed in 2015 between the Basque Government and the following financial institutions: BBVA, Santander, Bankoia, CaixaBank, Rural Kutxa, Kutxabank, Laboral Kutxa, Popular, and SabadellGuipuzcoano. The signatories expressed their will to define and consolidate their collaboration in the sphere of people's language rights. They also undertake to guarantee in their respective areas of action the language rights recognized under prevailing legislation in their relations with their customers.

b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;

As regards publicly owned companies under the Basque Government, an action plan has been designed and implemented. Thanks to the efforts made, a register of publicly owned companies has been completed. Communication with all of them has been carried out in different phases. Relations have been established with 50 organizations. The different companies have been offered a model for plans for the use of Basque, and other kinds of online resources to help with planning.

As regards institutional communication campaigns by the public authorities, Article 9 of Act 29/2005, of 29 December, on Institutional Publicity and Communication, sets forth that institutional publicity campaigns shall use Castilian and, in accordance with the territory in which the campaign is to be disseminated, the co-official languages of the Autonomous Communities, respecting the legislation of the respective Autonomous Community on the use of official languages.

c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;

Basque Act 10/1982, of 24 November, the Basic Act on the Normalization of the Use of Basque, recognizes in Articles 5.2.a), 6.1, and 9.1 as a fundamental language right that of communicating in Basque or in Castilian, orally and/or in writing, with the Administration or with any body or entity located in the Basque Autonomous Community, including the right to receive attention in the same official language.

Moreover, Decree 67/2003, of 18 March, regulates the normalization of the use of Basque in Osakidetza (the Basque Health Service), and the aim is to gradually incorporate Basque into the habitual spoken and written relations between Osakidetza and the general public, both in the provision of healthcare services and in all of the processes constituting its activity as a public entity.

As regards hospitals (primary and specialized healthcare), the Basque public system is making great efforts in this regard (see Article 10). It is worth underlining the fact that since 2013, 18 public and private healthcare centres and bodies have applied for and obtained the BIKAIN quality certificate for their language management.

YEAR	NO. OF CERTIFICATES
2013	2
2014	2
2015	5
2016	9

d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;

KONTSUMOBIDE, the Basque Consumer Institute, under the Basque Government, provides the public with all of its information in Basque and in Castilian, both in writing (catalogues, instructions, brochures...) and in its oral communication (over the phone and face to face). <http://www.kontsumobide.euskadi.net/y10-kbhome/eu>

OSALAN, the Basque Institute for Workplace Health and Safety, also publishes its manuals in Basque. http://www.osalan.euskadi.net/s94-osa0016/es/contenidos/informacion/publicaciones_inf_general/es_inf_gene/informacion_general.html

e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.

Here, it is necessary to refer to two Articles from Act 6/2003, on the Statute of Consumers and Users.

“Article 14. General.

1. Consumers and users are entitled to receive accurate, complete, objective and comprehensible information about the essential characteristics of the goods and

services made available to them, with instructions for their proper use or consumption and warnings about the foreseeable risks involved in their use or consumption, so that they may make a conscious and rational choice among them and use them in a safe and satisfactory manner.

Article 37. Language rights of consumers and users.

a) Right to receive, in Basque and in Castilian, information on goods and services pursuant to Article 14 hereof.

Article 14. Transfrontier exchanges

a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education

As follow-up to the agreement signed in 2007, on 31 January 2011 the Basque Government and France's Public Office for the Basque Language signed a new framework agreement to collaborate on language policy matters during the 2011-2016 period. This agreement is the framework and the principal reference for collaboration, and the corresponding annex is signed every year. The agreement has been renewed for another six years in 2017. In this agreement, both parties undertake to organize and promote activities relating to any of the following four challenges:

- **Transmission of Basque:** The aim is to increase the number of Basque speakers of all ages and thus reverse the downward trend seen in sociolinguistic surveys in recent years.
- **Presence and use of Basque:** Promote the presence of Basque in all sectors of public and private social life.
- **Language quality:** The aim is to preserve and enhance the quality of language, both of spoken and written Basque, in the different public and private spheres.
- **Motivation:** This is a cross-cutting goal. The aim is to arouse interest in the language, and strengthen its link to society, in order to increase effectiveness in each of the preceding challenges.

Moreover, on the basis of this agreement, a collaboration fund is set up annually, with contributions from both parties, in order to intensify the use of Basque in the French Basque Country. As set forth in said framework agreement, this fund is used to subsidize the work of private agents in the French Basque Country.

Year	Commund fund	Basque Government contribution	Projects receiving grants
2014	€1,200,000	€400,000	66
2015	€1,200,000	€400,000	72
2016	€1,330,000	€400,000	80

b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/ or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.

The Basque Government promotes actions fostering the use of Basque throughout the territory of the Basque Country, and channels collaboration with institutions in the French Basque Country and in Navarre.

Lastly, it must be noted that work is currently being done on drafting a significant collaboration agreement among those responsible for language policy in the Basque language's three territories (the Basque Government, the Government of the *Foral* Community of Navarre, and France's Public Office for the Basque Language).

BASQUE IN THE FORAL COMMUNITY OF NAVARRE

INTRODUCTION AND SOCIOLINGUISTIC DATA

The Foral Community of Navarre has two languages, Basque and Castilian, and all of its citizens have the right to know them and to use them. Castilian is official in the entire territory of the *Foral* Community, and Basque is official in the Basque-speaking zone:

Article 9.2 of the Statute of Autonomy of the *Foral* Community of Navarre sets forth that: "*Basque shall also be an official language in the Basque-speaking zones of Navarre; a foral law shall determine said zones, regulate the official use of Basque, and, in the framework of Spain's general legislation, shall organize the teaching of Basque.*"

The three main legislative texts to take into account when implementing language policy in Navarre are: the 1978 Spanish Constitution; Navarre's Statute of Autonomy (Organic Law 13/1982, of 10 August), and *Foral* Act 18/1986, of 15 December, regulating the normal use of Basque in the social and educational spheres.

Foral Act 18/1986 divides Navarre into three language zones:

1. Basque-speaking zone: in which Basque is a co-official language, together with Castilian. According to official population statistics, as at 1 January 2016 this zone has 58,377 inhabitants.
2. Mixed zone: in which Basque is not an official language. According to official population statistics, as at 1 January 2016 this zone has 366,634 inhabitants.
3. Non-Basque-speaking zone: in which Basque is not an official language. According to official population statistics, as at 1 January 2016 this zone has 215,636 inhabitants.

Foral law sets forth that Basque is official only in the Basque-speaking zone. This is determined in *Foral* Decree 29/2003, of 10 February, which regulates in a differentiated manner the use of Basque in Navarre's Public Administrations, depending on the zone in Navarre in which they are located. The Decree's Explanatory Memorandum states that *said Foral Act on Basque, in Article 5 and concomitant Articles, establishes three language zones in Navarre (...). In all of them, citizens are recognized the right to use Basque in their relations with the Public Administrations pursuant to said Foral Act, and urges these Public Administration to take different measures in each zone to make this right effective, in different manners and to different degrees.*

Current status of Basque in Navarre

In 2016, two studies have been conducted on the current status of Basque in Navarre: the Sixth Sociolinguistic Survey on Basque, and the Seventh Measurement of the oral use of languages in daily life.

The **Sixth Sociolinguistic Survey** on Basque was carried out jointly, thanks to a collaboration between *Euskarabidea* (the Navarre Institute of Basque), the Basque Government's Deputy Department for Language Policy, and France's Public Office for the Basque Language. The results of the survey can be summarized as follows:

- 12.9% of people aged 16 or older in the *Foral* Community are bilingual, 10.3% are passive bilinguals, and 76.6% are monolingual Castilian speakers. The bilingual population is steadily on the rise, and currently amounts to 69,000 people, in contrast with 40,000 in 1991.
- The Basque-speaking zone has the highest percentage of Basque speakers: 61.1%. The mixed zone has 11.3% Basque speakers. The lowest percentage of non-Basque speakers is in the non-Basque-speaking zone: 2.7%.
- The highest percentage of bilingual speakers can be found among the youngest population: 62.6% of young people between the ages of 16 and 24 are bilingual (2.5 times more than the 1991 percentage). The number of bilinguals in the 25-34 age group is also 2.5 times the percentage of 1991.

Knowledge of Basque is diverse depending on the language zones. This chart shows the evolution in the knowledge of Basque by zones, comparing the figures of 2011 and those of 2016:

	Basque-speaking zone (%)		Mixed zone (%)		Non-Basque-speaking zone (%)		Navarre (%)	
	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016	2011	2016
	Basque speakers	59.3	61.1	9.8	11.3	2.3	2.7	11.7
Passive Basque speakers	12.6	13.4	9.6	12.0	3.1	6.8	7.5	10.3
Non-Basque speakers	28.1	25.5	80.6	76.8	94.6	90.5	80.8	76.7

The **Seventh Measurement of the oral use of languages in daily life** was carried out in 2016. Its results show a considerable increase in the use of Basque in daily life. The sample included 32 municipalities in Navarre (11 more municipalities than in 2011). The sample comprised a total of 25,000 interviews, with approximately 69,000 speakers recorded. It constituted, therefore, wide-ranging research that guarantees the strength of its results. The sampling error is ± 0.3 , with a confidence level of 95%.

Legislative changes

Foral Acts:

- Foral Act 4/2015, amending Act 18/1986, on Basque, of 10 March 2015:

The amendment gives similar status to education in Basque in the non-Basque-speaking zone and education in Basque in the mixed zone. In practice, it enables the introduction of Model D in public schools in the non-Basque-speaking zone.

Article 26 (on education in the Non-Basque-speaking zone) now reads as follows:

1. *The incorporation of Basque into education shall be carried out in a gradual, progressive and sufficient manner, through the creation in existing public schools of lines in which education is taught in Basque according to demand.*
2. *Education shall be taught in Basque, in non-university levels, to all students that so demand, so that at the end of their schooling they may reach a sufficient level of knowledge of said language.*
3. *To respond to the demand in public schools, the minimum number of students who, according to objective criteria, use the education administration in any education model shall be taken into account in configuring a school unit.*

Foral Decrees:

- Foral Decree 67/2014, of 27 August, establishing the curriculum for level C1 in the teaching of languages of Organic Law 2/2006, on Education, for the Foral Community of Navarre.

- Foral Decree 26/2015, of 29 April, creating official certificates of the Government of Navarre to accredit knowledge of Basque at levels A1, A2, B1 and B2, and regulating their issuance.

- Foral Decree 130/2015, of 28 August, approving the Statute of the self-governing body *Euskarabidea* (Navarre Institute of Basque).

- Foral Decree 4/2016, of 27 January, regulating the official symbol of the Government of Navarre and its use, and the obligation for the bilingual name to be displayed on said symbol.

Draft legislation:

- Draft Foral Decree on the use of Basque in the public administrations of Navarre:

A Foral Decree that will soon be approved, and which was drafted in 2016, will regulate the use of Basque in the public administrations of Navarre, its public bodies and attached public law entities. The draft focuses on the citizenry and on respect for their language rights, while guaranteeing public service employees their acquired rights. Another criterion when drafting the Decree was respect for the authority of local entities.

Moreover, the draft sets forth the criteria for guaranteeing language rights with efficient management of the administration's own resources. According to official data, more than one thousand public service employees have level B2 or level C1. Pursuant to the Decree, the Departments must plan for bilingual positions and circuits, preferably in positions serving the public directly. These plans shall be negotiated with the trade unions before approval by the Navarre Government.

- Draft Foral Decree establishing the criteria for the use and graphic expression of bilingual official names.

A Foral Decree shall regulate the establishment of the criteria for the use and graphic expression of bilingual official names in Navarre towns. Municipalities may decide if their name is in Basque and in Castilian. A Decree shall make the bilingual name

possible if it is recognized by Euskaltzaindia (the Royal Academy of the Basque Language).

- **Draft Foral Decree amending Foral Decree 130/2015 as regards the composition of the Navarre Council of Basque.**

A Foral Decree is being processed to amend the previous Decree. It is scheduled to be approved in August 2017, and its main changes are:

- The Council shall go from having 22 to having 35 representatives.
- Work in commissions making proposals to the plenary shall be fostered.

Part II

Article 7 – Objectives and principles

Paragraph 1 c the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them

The most outstanding changes with regard to the previous report are:

- The structure and functions of Euskarabidea have been strengthened through Foral Decree 130/2015, of 28 August, which approved the Statute of the self-governing body.

As regards the allocation of the necessary resources, measures have already been taken in line with the recommendations made by the Council of Europe. Precisely in its latest report, while taking into consideration the effects of the economic crisis, the Committee of Experts noted that the overall budget assigned to Euskarabidea had decreased rapidly in recent years, which might have a negative effect on the protection and promotion of the Basque language in Navarre. In this regard, in its most recent budget the Navarre Government has begun increasing—to the extent allowed by the economic situation—the resources assigned to Euskarabidea.

Budget executed by Euskarabidea:

Year	Budget Euskarabidea	Grants for media	Grants for teaching Basque to adults	Grants for municipalities	Grants for non-profit-making associations	Grants for trade and business
2014	2,138,251	0	0	140,814.41	0	0
2015	2,178,602	*66,000.00	**129,077.66	146,838.56	0	0
2016	4,233,220	290,000.00	392,224.51	282,255.20	101,719.65	0
2017	6,224,644	500,080.00	700,000.00	650,000.00	250,000.00	60,000.00

Source: Euskarabidea.

*In 2015 there were no grants calls. These grants were awarded to audiovisual production.

**Grants for teaching Basque to adults in October-December 2015.

- Agreement between Euskarabidea (Navarre Institute of Basque) and Euskaltzaindia (Royal Academy of the Basque Language)

The purpose of the agreement is to lay the general foundations for collaboration between Euskarabidea and Eusko Ikaskuntza (Society of Basque Studies), and to regulate the framework of commitments undertaken by the signatories to enable the Institution's activity as regards the Foral Community of Navarre, as well as the general foundations for the proper functioning of the Institution.

· 2014: €0

- 2015: €0
- 2016: €20,000
- 2017: €40,000

e the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages”.

Noteworthy in this regard are the following decisions:

- The Decision of the Navarre Government of 6 April 2016 approved the draft agreement and statute for the accession of the *Foral* Community of Navarre to the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation “Euroregion New Aquitaine/Euskadi”. Navarre joined the Euroregion in April 2017, and chaired it in 2018 and 2019.
- On 5 July 2012, a Collaboration Agreement was signed between the Basque Government’s Culture Department and the Navarre Government’s Education Department. This Agreement has not been implemented.
- On 4 May 2016, the Navarre Government adopted the General Protocol for Collaboration with the Basque Government. This Agreement enhanced a Collaboration Protocol that both Governments had signed on 3 July 2009. It comprises 18 fields for collaboration. As regards language policy, both Governments agree on the need to foster ties to collaborate, on the basis of mutual agreement, in the following fields: teaching Basque to adults; evaluation and accreditation of Basque language skills; research and studies to monitor and assess the sociolinguistic situation of Basque; sharing experiences in the field of Basque to Castilian, and Castilian to Basque, translation and terminology; collaboration on the promotion of Basque in information and communication technologies; promotion of programmes for the international dissemination of Basque; and collaborating and sharing experiences in the cultural and social planning and promotion of Basque.
- The Decision of the Navarre Government of 4 February 2016 approved the EAS (Indicator System of Basque) Crossborder Partnership Agreement. Its aim is to collect, organize and disseminate quantitative information on the social situation and vitality of Basque. The EAS Promotion Committee is composed of institutions belonging to all the territories of the Basque language.
- The EU Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity (NPLD):
The Government of Navarre is a full member of the EU Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity , whose aim is to raise awareness among the EU population and institutions of the importance of linguistic diversity.

Article 8 - Education

1. With regard to education, the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used, according to the situation of each of these languages, and without prejudice to the teaching of the official language(s) of the State:

a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

b i to guarantee primary education in the regional or minority languages concerned;

c i to make available secondary education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

d i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

e iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;

f i to arrange for the provision of adult and continuing education courses which are taught mainly or wholly in the regional or minority languages; or

g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;

h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party;

i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

2. With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

Navarre's education system offers the following language models:

Model A: education in Castilian, with Basque as a subject.

Model B: education in Basque, with Castilian as a subject and as a vehicular language in one or two subjects, depending on the educational level, cycle or stage.

Model D: teaching in Basque, with Castilian as a subject.

Model G: teaching in Castilian, without any teaching in Basque or of Basque.

Moreover, the system also offers an intensive English learning programme: "British" Programme, TIL (Integrated Treatment of Languages), PAI (Learning in English Programme), where students spend approximately 10 of their 28 weekly school sessions in immersion in English.

The total figures for schooling in Navarre from ages 3 to 18 in the 2015-2016 academic year are:

Tabla nº 129: Datos de escolarización en modelos con euskera A+B+D y sin euskera G. 2015-2016

	Modelo G		Modelo A		Modelo B		Modelo D		Total Alum.**
	Alum.	%	Alum.	%	Alum.	%	Alum.	%	
Ed. Infantil	10.034	50,37	4.356	21,87	56	0,28	5.475	27,48	19.921
Ed. Primaria	21.497	52,65	8.193	20,07	125	0,31	11.017	26,98	40.832
E.S.O.	17.092	65,47	2.418	9,26	34	0,13	6.564	25,14	26.108
Bachillerato	6.494	72,30	402	4,48			2.086	23,22	8.982
C. Formativos	7.797	97,41					207	2,59	8.004
FPB	819	100,00							819
Total	63.733	60,89	15.369	14,68	215	0,21	25.349	24,22	104.666

Fuente: Negociado de Gestión de la Información Escolar

Education in Basque in the Basque-speaking zone

As we stated above, on 10 March 2015, the Official Gazette of the *Foral* Community of Navarre published *Foral Act 4/2015*, amending Act 18/1986, on Basque. The amendment gives similar status to education in Basque in the non-Basque-speaking zone and education in Basque in the mixed zone. In practice, it enables the introduction of **Model D in public schools in the non-Basque-speaking zone**. Model D is education totally in Basque, except for Castilian language as a subject.

Model D will be implemented in public schools in the non-Basque-speaking zone if there is sufficient demand. Sufficient demand was set at a minimum of 8 applications for pre-enrolment in Early Years Education (ages 3 to 6) and, if this minimum is not reached, the Department of Education will consider opening a group in a specific school, for other applicants to attend “on the basis of geographic proximity” and will offer grants for transportation and meals.

In line with the demand of parents in the zone, in the 2016-2017 academic year Model D was implemented in 3 public schools: Caparroso, Lodosa and Tafalla, and in the 2017-2018 academic year it will be implemented in another 3: Allo, Ancin and Olite.

a i to make available pre-school education in the relevant regional or minority languages;

There are 135 Early Years schools in Navarre (38 of them—28%—in Basque). As regards ownership, 115 of these schools are public (35 in Basque) and 20 are private (3 in Basque).

In the Basque-speaking zone, most schools are in Basque; in the mixed zone, nearly 33% of schools are in Basque; and in the non-Basque-speaking zone, schools in Basque are less than 4%. The other schools are either private or owned by the municipalities.

The data on Early Years schools for academic year 2016-2017 are:

EARLY YEARS SCHOOLS / NAVARRE 2016-2017
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Language model	Basque-speaking zone	%	Mixed zone	%	Non-Basque-speaking zone	%	Total	%
In Castilian	1	7.14	37	52.86	43	84.31	81	60.00
In Castilian and English	0	0.00	9	12.86	6	11.76	15	11.11
In Castilian, Basque and English	0	0.00	1	1.43	0	0.00	1	0.74
In Basque	13	92.86	23	32.86	2	3.92	38	28.15
Total	14	100.00	70	100.00	51	100.00	135	100.00

In Pamplona, Navarre's capital city, there was a deficit of offer in Basque. Out of 25 existing schools, only 2 were in Basque.

In the 2016-2017, the City Council of Pamplona, owner of 13 of those Early Years schools, added another 2 schools to the 2 existing schools in Basque.

EARLY YEARS SCHOOLS IN PAMPLONA 2016-2017		
Language model	No. of schools	%
In Castilian	16	64.00%
In Castilian and English	5	20.00%
In Basque	4	16.00%
Total	25	100.00%

Source: Department of Education

The plan for the 2017-2018 academic year is for 2 of the 7 Early Years schools owned by the Government of Navarra, which had previously been in Castilian, to offer the Basque model, and so, the offer in Basque will reach 24%.

i to make available technical and vocational education in the relevant regional or minority languages

These are the data on the evolution of this educational level and the changes that have taken place:

Vocational Training Data on schooling in Navarre						
	2014-2015		2015-2016		2016-2017	
Model A	0	0.00 %	0	0.00 %	0	0.00 %
Model B and D	168	2.03 %	208	2.12 %	258	2.67 %
Model G	8,109	97.97 %	9,583	97.88 %	9,389	97.33 %
Total	8,277		9,791		9,647	100.00 %

The Programmatic Agreement of the Government of Navarre (2015-2019 Term of Parliament) states: “22. *Review and amend the educational offer for Vocational Training, including increasing the educational offer in Basque...*”

For the 2017-2018 academic year, the Department of Education is presenting a Vocational Training offer with a 6% increase in Basque in intermediate level cycles, and doubling the offer in advanced level cycles to reach 7%.

In **Advanced Level** cycles, the Vocational Training School in Elizondo will have a cycle in Basque on “Management of Tourist Accommodation”, and the cycle on “Industrial automation and robotics” will also be taught in Basque at the San Juan-Donibane Vocational Training School.

As regards **Intermediate Level** cycles in Basque, the Elizondo Vocational Training School will offer “Nursing Assistant Care”, the Agroforestry Vocational Training School will offer “Agroecological Production”, and the Donapea Vocational Training School will offer “Automotive Electromechanics”.

In addition to these cycles, other cycles are already being taught in Basque:

- “Administration and Finance” (Donapea Vocational Training School and Elizondo Vocational Training School)
- “Industrial Mechatronics” (Toki Ona Secondary School in Bera)
- “Early Years Education” (Teacher Training School in Pamplona)
- “Carrying Out Physical and Sports Activities in the Outdoors” (Lekaroz Secondary School)
- “Administrative Management” (Donapea Vocational Training School and Elizondo Vocational Training School)
- “Machining” (Elizondo Vocational Training School)
- “Electromechanical Maintenance” (Toki Ona Secondary School in Bera)
- “Nursing Assistant Care” (ESTNA [Vocational Healthcare School of Navarre] in Pamplona)

e iii if, by reason of the role of the State in relation to higher education institutions, subparagraphs i and ii cannot be applied, to encourage and/or allow the provision of university or other forms of higher education in regional or minority languages or of facilities for the study of these languages as university or higher education subjects;

The Programmatic Agreement of the Government of Navarre, as regards university education, states: “*Design a Strategic Plan on Language Normalization for the UPNA [Public University of Navarre]*”

The Statutes (1995 and 2003) of the Public University of Navarre (UPNA) recognize the right to receive and offer education in Basque. From the outset, it has offered Teaching Degrees in Early Years Education and in Primary Education entirely in Basque, as well as certain courses in Basque in other Degree programmes.

After the approval of the UPNA’s 2007-2009 Strategic Plan for Basque, the teaching in Basque of different courses increased considerably, in line with the selection of subjects for which the specific knowledge of the language was most appropriate in each degree programme.

With the recent implementation of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA), teaching in Basque has been redesigned in all Degree programmes. Teaching Degrees

in Early Years Education and in Primary Education are offered in Basque, and in the other Degree programmes the offer of subjects in Basque responds mainly to the criteria of the cross-cutting nature of subjects within Degree programmes in the same branch of knowledge, a specific characteristic of the first semesters of the new Degree programmes adapted to the EHEA.

As for the University of Navarre (a private university), in the previous report it stated that it taught, on its Pamplona campus, a 50-credit Diploma in Basque Studies. However, according to the information it has currently provided, the Diploma has 60 credits on Basque matters, but it does not specify how many of them are taught in Basque.

<http://www.unav.edu/centro/katedra/docencia>

a h to provide the basic and further training of the teachers required to implement those of paragraphs a to g accepted by the Party

- Basic training

With regard to basic teacher training in Basque, as stated above the UPNA offers Teaching Degrees in Early Years Education and in Primary Education in Basque, and in the rest of its Degree programmes it offers certain subjects in Basque.

In the 2017-2018 academic year, the UPNA will offer, for the first time, a Master's Degree in Basque Language and Literature, in order to teach in Basque in Secondary Education.

- Further training

The Department of Education has a specific centre for teacher training and advice: The Resource Centre for Education in Basque (EIBZ), which organizes courses in Basque. The Centre has six teachers/advisers.

The Department has also set up a network of Teacher Support Centres (CAP) in different areas of Navarre. Some of these CAPs also organize activities in Basque.

CAP Lekaroz (Basque-speaking zone): it offers all of its courses, save for *force majeure*, in Basque. They report having had 13 courses in Basque and 2 in Castilian.

CAP Pamplona: Basque courses are 12% of their total training.

CAP Estella (mixed zone): it did not organize anything in Basque, but it seems that in Model D

working groups working groups were organized in Basque.

CAP Tafalla (non-Basque-speaking zone, has applied to become part of mixed zone): all courses in Castilian.

CAP Tudela (non-Basque-speaking zone): all courses in Castilian.

The Department of Education signed a collaboration agreement with the Basque Summer University (UEU), whereby students from both Universities may attend training courses organized throughout the academic year, provided that there are vacancies.

The UPNA offers technical courses in Basque, for instance on producing quality texts.

<http://www.unavarra.es/euskara/tablon-de-anuncios?contentId=224913&languageId=100000>

Navarre's Directorate-General for Universities and Educational Resources states that in its Distance Education courses, no courses have been taught in Basque—they have all been in Castilian.

The idea, for the next academic year, is for the most demanded courses to have two options: one taught in Castilian and the other in Basque.

As a transitional measure, when the tutor is a Basque speaker, this year students have the option of receiving tutoring and being allowed to hand in work in Basque.

<http://aulavirtual.educacion.navarra.es/course/index.php?categoryid=2&lang=es>

As regards the section on equality and coexistence, several courses in Basque have been organized in 6 towns in different areas of Navarre, in Model D schools and *ikastolas* (Basque-speaking schools), on the following issues: emotional competence, social skills involving communication and mediation, and bullying.

- **Teacher training in Basque**

Teachers who are already working also have the possibility of studying Basque, through different channels.

- The Department of Education offers online courses in the EDUCALINGUA programme.

Through this learning platform, the Navarre Government makes available to all teachers working, or who have been working, during the 2016-2017 academic year, either in public education or in private education subsidized by the Department of Education, a tool to enable them to further their knowledge of the language and to take tests from level A1 to level C1.

- Since the 2002-2003 academic year, more than 300 teachers, in addition to 89 UPNA staff, have taken courses in the *Euskarabidea euskaltegi*.
- The Zubiate public *euskaltegi* offers Basque courses from level A1 to C1 in different modalities: online, online tutored, and face-to-face courses. Enrolment is free of charge for teachers.

The 2016-2019 Strategic Plan for Basque proposes the following regarding teacher training:

- Increase the offer of courses in order to enhance the Basque communication skills of teachers, taking into account training them in the local variety of Basque (should there be one) and its use in the classroom and in the school.
- Strengthen teachers' lifelong learning in the field of language teaching to make them more effective in improving their students' communication skills.
- Study the possibility of offering the specialization in Teaching Basque Language and Literature in the Master's Decree in Teaching Secondary Education.
- Ensure that teachers of Basque language and literature in Secondary Education have a Degree in Basque Philology or in Basque Studies, or in Translation and Interpretation (including Basque).
- Study the possibility of offering accreditation of level C1 in Basque in Navarre.

i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

Teachers and School Council

According to the information in the fourth periodical report, Navarre's educational system currently has a sufficient number of teachers with a full command of Basque to cover the demand for classes, and the new generations of teachers are coming into the system with full training in the language. The Committee of Experts considers the undertaking fulfilled.

In this regard, the opinion of the Department of Education is as follows:

As regards the cycles offered in Basque in the 2016-2017 academic year, there have been no reports of any problems in the teaching of the different modules in each cycle, either involving teachers who are civil servants or temporary teachers.

As for the new offer of cycles in Basque for 2017-2018, the Human Resources Service is working to open positions to teach in Basque for teachers specialized in the subjects of these new cycles.

Paragraph 2. With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

Please refer to the information that has been provided with regard to the activity of **Instituto Cervantes** for this paragraph of the Charter in the corresponding section of this report on Catalan in Catalonia.

Noteworthy in the sphere of Navarre are two projects implemented in this regard:

Luzaide/Valcarlos and Arnegi educational project.

The Luzaide/Valcarlos public school, with 14 pupils (5 in Early Years and 9 in Primary Education) shares its educational project and its classrooms with the French Lower Navarre school of Arnegi (9 and 14 pupils, respectively), in the framework of a cross-border project based, among other principles, on promoting language immersion in the three official languages: Castilian, Basque and French. Basque is the common language of all the pupils.

This is an innovative collaboration system implemented by Valcarlos and Arnegi in order to, while maintaining the essence of rural schools, address depopulation by strengthening socio-cultural relations and maximizing the quality of education, based on a rational commitment to languages and a more balanced division of levels.

It is a mixed formula: Luzaide Primary pupils go to Arnegi four afternoons a week, and the transportation costs are borne by the Navarre Government; and in return, Arnegi Early Years pupils go to Luzaide five mornings a week, with the costs being borne by the French Administration. And in both cases, pupils have lunch in their own school. All of this with the families' support and the parties' commitment to its continuity.

Student exchange project

Above, reference was made to the Specific Collaboration Agreement between the Basque Government's Department of Culture and Language Policy, the Navarre

Government's Department of Institutional and Public Relations, and the French Basque Country's Public Office for the Basque Language.

Goal 2.1 of the Agreement, on the promotion of the use of Basque in leisure activities, states: "Outside school, especially in leisure activities, projects aimed at boys, girls, and teenagers (language stays, summer camps...) will be promoted, and the channels for exchanges among the three parties shall be analysed."

The Agreement is recent, but it opens up possibilities of cross-border exchanges for students studying and speaking in Basque.

Article 9 – Justice

Paragraph 1

The Parties undertake, in respect of those judicial districts in which the number of residents using the regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below, according to the situation of each of these languages and on condition that the use of the facilities afforded by the present paragraph is not considered by the judge to hamper the proper administration of justice:

a in criminal proceedings:

i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii to guarantee the accused the right to use his/her regional or minority language; and/or

iii to provide that requests and evidence, whether written or oral, shall not be considered inadmissible solely because they are formulated in a regional or minority language; and/or

iv to produce, on request, documents connected with legal proceedings in the relevant regional or minority language, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations involving no extra expense for the persons concerned;

b in civil proceedings:

i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary by the use of interpreters and translations;

c in proceedings before courts concerning administrative matters:

i to provide that the courts, at the request of one of the parties, shall conduct the proceedings in the regional or minority languages; and/or

ii to allow, whenever a litigant has to appear in person before a court, that he or she may use his or her regional or minority language without thereby incurring additional expense; and/or

iii to allow documents and evidence to be produced in the regional or minority languages, if necessary using interpreters and translations;

Please refer to the general information, non-specific to the Autonomous Community, provided with respect to Article 9 of the Charter, and with respect to Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Committee of Ministers, in the section of this report corresponding to Catalan in Catalonia.

As regards the authority of the *Foral* Community of Navarre, it must be noted that the Justice administration's auxiliary staff are under the aegis of the Navarre Government.

As for the training of this staff, some of them are participating in the courses organized by *Euskarabidea's euskaltegi*.

The Directorate-General for Justice is preparing an Action Plan to conduct a diagnosis of its staff's knowledge of Basque, and to assign positions that require knowledge of Basque to serve the public in that language.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

Paragraph 1

Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:

a i to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages.

b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;

c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.

Training actions to increase and improve the use of Basque in the public services of the *Foral* Community of Navarre have been constant. In addition to training actions in co-official languages being carried out in different sectors, Spain's General State Administration (AGE) implements its training policy for its civil service staff through the National Institute of Public Administration (INAP), a self-governing body attached to the Ministry of the Treasury and of the Civil Service. INAP has been collaborating for years in promoting the learning of co-official languages at different levels by the AGE's civil service staff posted in the Autonomous Communities that have another official language in addition to Castilian, including the staff of the State Security Forces.

Equally noteworthy is the translation of documents and forms into Basque, as well as the translation of the websites of Ministries and other national public agencies.

According to the information provided by the Central Government Delegation in Navarre, the following is the diagnosis of the use of Basque in the AGE in the *Foral* Community:

- Posters, brochures and forms

The following documents are bilingual:

- Service Charter
- Green Guide (Environmental Guidelines)
- General applications under Article 16.4
- Forms for communication involving the right to assembly
- Forms for complaints and suggestions
- User satisfaction questionnaires at the General Registry

- Signage

All of the signage at the headquarters of the Government Delegation, and at the premises hosting the institution's different areas, is bilingual.

- Training

For years there has been a Collaboration Agreement with the Navarre Institute for Public Administrations (*Euskarabidea*), under which the AGE finances approximately 70% of specific Basque language courses. The Agreement has been operating with the regular attendance of students from the AGE—the latest data available to us show that in the 2013-2014 year a total of 15 students attended these courses. This includes the Basque courses regularly offered by INAP for civil servants from the central administration and from the Navarre administration, which have been mentioned above.

There is also a translator to support the Government Delegation and the rest of the AGE, which, together with the AGE's own staff who knows Basque, means that the public can submit written communications and documents validly in Basque and receive an answer in the same language.

Moreover, in the assignment of positions involving serving the public, knowledge of Basque is taken into consideration.

For its part, regarding the languages used in administrative procedures, Act 39/2015, of 1 October, on the Common Administrative Procedure of the Public Administrations, sets forth in Article 15 that:

1. The language of procedures carried out by the General State Administration shall be Castilian. Notwithstanding the foregoing, those interested parties addressing the General State Administration bodies that are located in the territory of an Autonomous Community may also use the co-official language of the former.

In this case, the procedure shall be carried out in the interested party's language of choice. If several interested parties are participating in the procedure, and there is a discrepancy regarding the language used, the procedure shall be carried out in Castilian. However, any documents or statements required by the interested parties shall be issued in their language of choice.

2. In procedures carried out by the Administrations of the Autonomous Communities and of the Local Entities, the use of the language shall be in accordance with the provisions of the corresponding Autonomous Community legislation.

3. The Public Administration carrying out the procedure must translate into Castilian any documents, dossiers, or parts thereof that are to be effective outside the territory of the Autonomous Community, and any documents addressed to interested parties who request this explicitly. If they are to be effective in the territory of an Autonomous

Community where that same language, other than Castilian, is co-official, they shall not need to be translated.

Paragraph 2.

In respect of the local and regional authorities on whose territory the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages is such as to justify the measures specified below, the Parties undertake to allow and/or encourage:

a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority;

b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;

c the publication by regional authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;

d the publication by local authorities of their official documents also in the relevant regional or minority languages;

e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

f the use by local authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.

The current data on the status of Basque among the positions in the Navarre Government administration:

The average is 11% of bilingual positions, most of them in education (29.51%) and institutional and public relations (37.42%). In healthcare, the percentage of bilingual positions is only 0.61%. This insufficient number of bilingual positions in certain sectors is expected to be corrected with the implementation of the First Strategic Plan and the *Foral Decree*, yet to be approved, implementing the Act on Basque.

Since January 2014, 52 positions have been assigned a Language Profile. Among them, 3 positions are for firefighters, 11 for the *foral* police force, 6 for nurses, and 6 for medical personnel.

The Navarre Government's First Strategic Plan for Basque sets forth training in the public administrations so that they may offer their services in Basque and increase the offer of public services in Basque.

To this end, it has defined a specific line of action. This strategic line refers to the public administration's services aimed at the public, i.e. the public services, where people's language rights need to be ensured. Hence, planning is crucial for the administrations to respond appropriately to their obligations.

The first sphere in which work is to be done is in the analysis of the *foral* administration: diagnosis of positions and definition of bilingual positions. In other words, knowing the staff's level of knowledge of Basque and the communication needs of each position, to define which of them require knowledge of Navarre's two languages. It is also essential to design a language plan for Basque to become integrated into all of the *foral* administration's actions; for all departments, in a cross-cutting manner, to assume their responsibility to use Basque; and for people's right to choose their language to be effectively respected in a proactive manner. Other spheres in which work is to be done

include the training of civil servants in Basque, the translation service, and the means to activate civil servants who know Basque to a greater or lesser extent and foster their skills in this language.

In addition to the *Foral* Administration, this line also includes local administrations and the AGE located in Navarre, and a collaboration framework with them has been set forth.

The actions already under way include:

1. Drafting documents to launch the action plans in the Navarre Government's departments.
2. Training courses for the staff of the Sports Institute and of the Navarre Employment Service (Lansare).
4. Sports Institute: A translation service has been made available to sports federations, and a seminar on sports and Basque has been held.
4. Education: Information about Model D and about the campaign (this has been described in the chapter on Education).
- 5 Local bodies: *Euskarabidea* has drafted reports analysing staff positions and their language profiles, and grants have been offered to foster Basque in town councils.
6. There has been collaboration with the Navarre Parliament and the Association of Municipalities in the Pamplona Region in order to start action plans for Basque.

According to the information made available in the fourth periodical report, training in Basque of Public Administration staff in Navarre was included in the Annual Plan drawn up by the Navarre Public Administration Institute, coordinated between *Euskarabidea* and the INAP, organized and funded by the Navarre Government, and where paid leave is available to personnel to attend. It is worth noting that every year more than 1,000 employees participate in Basque training courses.

The First Strategic Plan for Basque sets forth training staff to increase the offer of services and attention to users in Basque, and it includes the following actions:

- Setting criteria for the teaching of Basque to staff, including its planning, implementation and evaluation.
- Training and enabling Basque-speaking staff so that they may offer their services and perform their duties in Basque.
- Designing and implementing continuous technical capacity-building in Basque for staff, linked to each position's communicative needs.

The European Charter sets forth the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages.

In the third evaluation report, the Committee of Experts considered the undertaking partly fulfilled as far as the regional authorities were concerned. It encouraged the authorities to take measures to encourage the use of Basque with administrative bodies.

According to the information provided in the fourth periodical report, all applications in Basque for certification of entries in registers, and forms, communications and notifications filed in the General Registers, Information and Public Attention Services or in the citizen service mailboxes are dealt with. Enquiries, complaints, claims, etc. are answered in the language in which they are received. Should the Administrative

Department to which they are addressed be unable to respond directly and a text must be translated, it is referred to the Translation Section.

The Committee of Experts considers the undertaking fulfilled.

Euskarabidea's translation services translates the Official Navarre Gazette into Basque, keeps it permanently updated, and maintains the corpus of *Foral* legislation known as LEXNAVARRRE EUSKARAZ, available at the Navarre Government website. It also provides translation services for all the Navarre Government's Departments. The translation staff in 2016 had 22 members, and since January 2017 it has two more members.

The Navarre Parliament has a translation unit for translating into Basque, and an interpretation service with five translators-interpreters, included in the Media, Publications and Protocol Service. At the Navarre Parliament's Plenary sessions and Committees, the members of Parliament may communicate in Castilian or in Basque.

All the parliamentary initiatives that are to be published in the Official Navarre Parliament Gazette are translated into Basque. All decisions approved by the Speaker of Parliament, the Board of Spokespersons, the Plenary or the Committees are translated into Castilian and Basque when they affect entities or bodies in the Basque-speaking zone.

Especially noteworthy are the fields of healthcare, social assistance and employment services:

Healthcare: As regards the public health system, according to data of December 2016, in Navarre's Basque-speaking zone the Health Department has a total of 12 Primary Healthcare Teams, with a total of 269 positions, 64 of which (i.e. 23.79%) require knowledge of Basque; for the other 205 positions, Basque is taken into consideration.

Of these positions, 224 are for healthcare professionals, 48 of which (i.e. 21.43%) have a language profile.

In the near future, work will begin on an Action Plan for the Healthcare sector, so that positions may be defined requiring knowledge of Basque, in order to increase the number of staff members with knowledge of Basque in the Basque-speaking zone, and to provide care for persons in other zones.

Social assistance: The Department of Social Rights, located in Pamplona, has five staff members in positions requiring Basque in the Navarre Agency for Personal Autonomy. These people assess degrees of dependency; therefore, they conduct personal interviews with elderly Basque speakers.

The Navarre Government manages three nursing homes (two in Pamplona and one in Estella), and subsidizes places for the elderly in other nursing homes.

The following nursing homes exist in the Basque-speaking zone:

- Aita Barandiaran, in Altsasu/Alsasua, with 42 places, 36 of them subsidized.
- Andra Mari, in Lesaka, with 70 places, 19 of them subsidized.
- San José, in Bera, with 40 places, 14 of them subsidized.
- Joaquín Iriarte, in Elizondo, with 151 places, 31 of them subsidized.

They are all owned by town councils or by foundations.

In the Navarre Government's unit for Services for the Elderly, there is a bilingual staff member who is in charge of these homes, precisely because there is the possibility of users or their families addressing the Administration in Basque. This staff member can also provide support for the Disability unit if it is necessary to communicate in Basque.

Employment services: In Navarre's Basque-speaking zone there are eight staff members for whom knowledge of Basque was taken into consideration to work in the zone's employment promotion offices, under the Navarre Employment Services.

Local Administration

Since 1996, local entities have approved ordinances seeking to normalize the use and promotion of Basque in municipalities and associations of municipalities. These ordinances have a standardized structure and address the following:

- Inter-administrative relations
- Citizen rights
- External image of the municipality
- Municipal staff and rules of procedure
- Procurement
- Promotion of Basque
- Place names
- Nursery school and Music school.
- Grants

In the **Basque-speaking zone**, at least the major municipalities have approved an ordinance regulating the use and promotion of Basque in the municipality.

Moreover, 13 Navarre municipalities are members of the UEMA (Association of Basque Municipalities). UEMA comprises municipalities with shared principles and a minimum of 70% of Basque-speaking population. These UEMA municipalities are: Araitz, Arantza, Arbizu, Areso, Basaburua, Baztan, Bera, Etxalar, Etxarri Aranatz, Goizueta, Igantzi, Larraun and Leitza.

UEMA's purposes are to ensure that people's public and private social lives may be conducted in Basque; to enable municipalities with a majority of Basque speakers to support each other in forming an area in which Basque is used; and to foster their socio-economic and socio-cultural development.

The major local entities in the **Mixed zone** are also making efforts to comply with the *Foral* Basque Act in their relations with the public, approving ordinances to protect and foster Basque in their legal system, and adding a language profile to some of their staff positions involving serving the public. In the Mixed zone there are 24 ordinances, and municipalities with the largest population have them.

Even in the **Non-Basque-speaking zone** there are three municipalities that have approved such ordinances in recent years: Tafalla, Metauten and Larraga.

Navarre has 27 Basque services in charge of promoting Basque in local entities; a new service was created in 2016, in the association of municipalities of Valdizarbe. Some of these services belong to a specific municipality; others, to an association of municipalities in the area.

In 2014, 40 town councils applied for grants to fund their Basque promotion programmes; 41 town councils applied for grants in 2015, and 52 applied in 2016.

Thanks to this financial aid from the Navarre Government, they carry out many activities to promote Basque, sometimes individually and other in collaboration with other municipalities. These activities include:

- Storytelling
- Theatre
- Cinema
- Music
- Improvised verse singing (*bertsolarismo*)
- Basque classes
- Literary competitions
- Publications: calendars, local magazines, gazettes
- Toy library
- Workshops
- Programmes to encourage reading
- Activities fostering use of Basque in shops

The Managing Director of *Euskarabidea* has signed the Decision for payment of the 2016 grants for the local entities' activities for the use and promotion of Basque in municipalities.

The main purpose of these grants is to help local entities implement the provisions of *Foral Act 18/1986* on Basque, of 15 December, and the commitments undertaken in the Instrument of Ratification of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.

In 2014, the grants amounted to 140,000 euros; in 2015, they amounted to 146,000 euros; and in 2016, the total amount of the grants has been 300,000 euros, and the following criteria have been taken into consideration:

For programmes and projects aimed at the use of Basque in cultural and social life.

For programmes and projects carried out jointly by several entities. For launching new technical services in Basque.

For 2017, a total of 650,000 euros have been budgeted.

Article 11 – Media

Paragraph 1

The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:

a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:

i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages;

b i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one radio station in the regional or minority languages;

c i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of at least one television channel in the regional or minority languages;

e i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages;

a ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages.

b to support the training of journalists and other media staff using regional or minority languages.

The Programmatic Agreement of the Government of Navarre for the 2015-2019 refers to the media in three paragraphs:

12. Recover and improve funding to media in Basque and to media that use Basque to the extent determined. To this end, grant agreements and calls shall be carried out.

13. Media receiving public funding must broadcast a percentage of their programmes in Basque, to the extent determined in the respective grants calls.

14. Adopt measures to guarantee the access of the Navarre general public to media in Basque.

Paragraphs 12 and 14 are currently being implemented: Funding has been budgeted for media in Basque for 2016, and funds have also been budgeted for 2017.

These agreements were also included in the First Strategic Plan for Basque.

The First Strategic Plan for Basque has set forth expanding the offer of media in Basque, and the presence of Basque in media in Castilian, in order to facilitate society's access to information in Basque.

With regard to media in Basque, the following has been set forth:

- Establish formulas (e.g. agreements or grants calls) to improve the funding of media in Basque.

- Establish a stable collaboration forum between the Foral Administration and the media in order to better respond to the needs existing in the sector.

- Analyse formulas to guarantee appropriate and quality media operating in Basque.

- Encourage the implementation of initiatives to cover the gaps in the offer of media in Basque.

- Promote reception of the ETB3 channel for children and young people in all of Navarre. Media in Castilian

- Foster the presence of Basque in media programmes through the corresponding grants call.

- Regulate by law that media receiving public funding produce part of their programmes in Basque.

In 2014 and 2015, no grants calls were made for media.

In 2016 there has been one, with a budget of 290,000 euros.

The following media received grants in the 2016 call:

Daily newspapers that use Basque: 2
Local magazines entirely in Basque: 10
Commercial radio stations in Basque: 2
Municipally owned radio stations in Basque: 4
Local magazines that use Basque: 3
Online media in Basque or that use Basque: 7

The Directorate-General for Communication and Institutional Relations offers grants for audiovisual production aimed at Navarre TV stations and production companies in the sector; these grants amount to 1,595,131 euros.

A total of 32 programmes will receive public funding, and all of them will be seen on six TV channels (the Foral Community channels *Navarra Televisión* and *Nafar Telebista*; the Pamplona local channels *Hamaika TB*, *Xaloa TB*, and *NTB11*; and the Tafalla local channel *Zona Media TV*) and also on demand on these channels' internet platforms.

As for 2017, the grants call for media in Basque or partly in Basque has already been improved, with a budget allocation of 580,000 euros.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake to guarantee freedom of direct reception of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language, and not to oppose the retransmission of radio and television broadcasts from neighbouring countries in such a language. They further undertake to ensure that no restrictions will be placed on the freedom of expression and free circulation of information in the written press in a language used in identical or similar form to a regional or minority language. The exercise of the above-mentioned freedoms, since it carries with it duties and responsibilities, may be subject to such formalities, conditions, restrictions or penalties as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

Television in Basque

ETB: In July 2016, the Navarre Government signed a collaboration agreement with the Basque Government, and since September, channel ETB1—a DTT channel in Basque aimed at adults—can be seen in all of the territory of Navarre.

The current reorganization is as follows:

- Pamplona area, channel 38: ETB1 (only one was free)
- Tafalla area, channel 31: ETB1, ETB2, ETB3
- Estella/Lizarra area, channel 24: ETB1, ETB2, ETB3
- Sangüesa area, channel 45: ETB1, ETB2, ETB3
- Tudela area: channel 39: ETB1, ETB2, ETB3

As regards the other TV stations in Basque, **Nafar Telebista** (a private entity) was born in May 2015, with two TV channels: NTB1 and NTB11. In October 2016 it stopped broadcasting. The reasons why it stopped broadcasting are not attributable to the government or to the lack of access to public grants. No information is available

regarding whether it intends to resume broadcasting. Nafar Telebista's offer in Basque primarily consisted in programmes for children: cartoons and music, among others. It also broadcast *pelota* (Basque handball) games in Basque on weekends. It had an average of 20,000 viewers per day, according to CIES (member of The Research Alliance) data of spring 2016.

Navarre Television, a private TV station in the Navarre Foral Community, broadcast the programme NIREKIN IKASI until May 2017, from Monday to Friday, two half-hour programmes in Basque, from 3.00 pm to 3.30 pm, and from 6.30 pm to 7.00 pm (on Fridays from 9.30 am to 10.00 am, and from 5.30 pm to 6.00 pm). The programme was not broadcast on Saturdays and Sundays. In May, it broadcast a programme called GOIAN ETA BEHEAN.

Xaloa Telebista broadcasts in the Pamplona area and in the northern zone: Baztán, Malerreka, Bortziriak...

As regards the Spanish national public station Radio Televisión Española (RTVE): The Navarre territorial centre of RTVE's TV station, **Televisión Española**, broadcasts a daily 2-3 minute news summary in Basque called Arin-arin. Radio stations do not broadcast programmes in Basque.

Private general-interest TV stations do not broadcast programmes in Basque in Navarre.

As we have stated, 32 TV programmes in Basque by regional or local private entities received public grants from the Directorate-General for Communication and Institutional Relations.

Radio reception in Basque:

Euskadi Irratia, a public radio station owned by the Basque Government, and which broadcasts in Basque, can be heard in the entire Foral Community of Navarre.

Euskalerría Irratia, a private radio station that broadcasts entirely in Basque for all of the Pamplona area, obtained its licence in 2016. Even though it can only be heard in the Pamplona area, it can reach a much wider audience on the internet.

Xorroxin Irratia, a commercial radio station that broadcasts in the northern zone of Navarre, in the valleys of Baztan, Bertizarana, Bortziriak, Leitzaldea, Malerreka, Mendialdea and Xareta, reaches most of the population in Navarre's Basque-speaking zone, with wide-ranging and varied programmes entirely in Basque. It has stations in Lesaka and Elizondo.

There are also four municipally owned local radios in Basque in diverse areas of the Basque-speaking zone, which broadcast local programmes to a more limited audience. These are:

Karrape, based in Leitzza; **Esan-erran**, based in Jauntsarats; **Aralar**, based in Lekunberri; and **Beleixe**, based in Etxarri-Aranatz.

All of these stations received public grants for broadcasting in Basque.

Certain Spain-wide private radios disconnect at times to broadcast regional and local programmes, but none are in Basque.

Press in Basque

Berria is the only general-interest newspaper printed in Basque. Even though it is not published in Navarre, it has a correspondent in Pamplona, it offers information about Navarre, and is distributed throughout the *Foral* Community of Navarre.

It publishes a weekly regional page, one of which is dedicated to Navarre, and contains current affairs, news, interviews, op-eds and a calendar of events.

The regional **Diario de Noticias** newspaper, published in Castilian, has a weekly 8-page supplement aimed at schoolchildren and occasional news items in Basque.

Diverse written publications and local magazines are published entirely or in part in Basque.

Different town councils, through their Basque services, publish a magazine in Castilian with news items in Basque, called **ZE BERRI?** This magazine is distributed free of charge and its aim is to give prestige to Basque and inform about any activities and events involving Basque.

Online media in Basque

Seven online media outlets in Basque or that use Basque on social networks receive grants for their online dissemination.

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

1. With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:

a to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these languages;

b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

c to foster access in regional or minority languages to works produced in other languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;

e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;

f to encourage direct participation by representatives of the users of a given regional or minority language in providing facilities and planning cultural activities;

g to encourage and/or facilitate the creation of a body or bodies responsible for collecting, keeping a copy of and presenting or publishing works produced in the regional or minority languages;

h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.

Directorate-General for Culture-Prince of Viana Institution:

At the Directorate-General for Culture-Prince of Viana Institution there are no staff positions for which knowledge of Basque is mandatory. The corresponding Action Plan in the framework of the launching of the First Strategic Plan for Basque will seek to correct this. More than 40 of its staff members have participated in recent decades in *Euskarabidea's* civil servant training courses in Basque for level B2 or higher. Most of these staff members work in institutions such as libraries or museums.

The Navarre Government's Directorate-General for Culture-Prince of Viana Institution promotes, coordinates and manages the drafting of a Strategic Plan on Culture for the *Foral* Community of Navarre (PECN), as it did of the Participation Plan in 2016.

The aim is to design an **Action Plan**, based on a diagnosis of the current situation, which will serve as an instrument to guide and enhance culture-related activities in Navarre.

The PECN's timeframe will span 2017-2023.

Its concept statement sets forth that "Creative and digital industries are an emerging sector within Navarre's Smart Specialization Strategy. The Navarre Government's cultural policy should be designed to guarantee open access for each and every individual of the Navarre public, as well as for the collective entities in which they are organized, addressing the idiosyncrasies of the territory and of its inhabitants, and the diversity of the culture that has shaped them in terms of artistic creation, cultural expressions and languages, in order to adapt and evolve towards a permanent relationship inside and outside the territory, among us and between us and others."

The Directorate-General for Culture-Prince of Viana Institution launched the first Arts Fair of Navarre, which was held on 15-16 November in Pamplona and its area. In its first edition, **948 Merkatua - Mercado de las Artes de Navarra** was presented as a fair comprising many fairs, with contributions from the realms of cinema, music, the performing arts, book and record publishing, plastic and visual arts, and other creative and cultural industries. One of its major aims was the outward projection of the image of Navarre as a territory of cultural wealth and linguistic diversity.

All of the information about the artistic programmes organized by the Directorate-General for Culture is published on its website in Castilian and Basque. Posters and programmes are printed in Basque for artistic programmes presented in part in the Basque-speaking and/or mixed zone.

Most libraries in Navarre are managed by the Navarre Government, and their service to the public in Basque would depend more on the above-mentioned First Strategic Plan for Basque, which in its Third Pillar—Public Services—seeks to address this challenge. It is worth adding here that 25 library staff members have participated in the courses organized by the Navarre Government, for level B2 or higher, in recent decades. In the Basque-speaking zone, for 8 of the 10 existing positions knowledge of Basque is taken into consideration, and even though most of these positions are currently held by Basque-speaking staff, or by staff who have been trained to offer service in Basque, public service in Basque is not guaranteed. The plans are for agreements to be adopted in 2017 in order to guarantee by law that service to the public is provided in Basque.

The Navarre Film Library's website is in Basque and Castilian. Its monthly programme brochure is published in both languages, and is included on its website. When a film in Basque is scheduled, the review in the brochure is also in Basque.

The website of the Punto de Vista (Point of View) Festival is bilingual, and all of its contents can be found in Castilian and in Basque. Moreover, all of its catalogues and bulletins are bilingual. Some of the films shown at the Festival in recent years were original versions in Basque with subtitles in Castilian.

The Navarre Government's Directorate-General for Culture offers help for many cultural activities, such as promoting creation; the development of artistic products and artistic and cultural enterprises; support for the growth of a stable, innovative and competitive creative and culture sector; and support for cultural activities in municipalities. In all of these activities, particular attention is paid to commitment to the regional language in terms of publicity and access to the tendering process.

Navarre Institute for Sport and Youth

Euskarabidea received a request from the Institute for Sport and Youth to carry out activities aimed at the normalization of Basque. Given the Institute's importance in the social use of language in leisure and recreational activities, which are a pillar of language use, priority was given to such activities. The experience has constituted a pilot test for drafting Action Plans.

To design the work dynamics, a working group was set up, with two experts from *Euskarabidea* as advisers. The work done included:

- Analysis in the visual landscape of the major signage at the Institute's different premises: panels, signs and indicators. They were written in both languages.
- Diagnosis of people who have knowledge of the Basque language, through a survey and interviews.
- Analysis of the possibilities of filling vacant positions with bilingual people.
- Preparation of a presentation about the status of sport in Navarre, at the Udaltop Basque Language Experts Seminar, held in May 2016.

- Creation of a conversation group to improve language skills.
- Campaign to encourage the Institute's staff to enrol in *Euskarabidea's* Basque courses.
- Analysis of the presence of Basque in Navarre's Sports Federations. These are a series of private entities receiving significant grants. A translator was hired to support this work. *Euskarabidea* contributes by paying half of the cost (20,000 euros). The translator, who has a degree in journalism, started working at the Federations' request, carrying out different tasks involving the presence of Basque in posters for sporting competitions and events, information brochures, and medals, and is also an announcer and commentator at sports events.
- Holding a sports day in Basque. This was supported by specialists in sociolinguistics, in sports theory, and included experiences in sports activities and a round table with athletes.
- Two specific 16-hour training courses were organized by *Euskarabidea*, based on the spoken public service and written work carried out by the Institute's staff.
- Certain Decisions by the Managing Director are starting to be drafted in Basque.
- The internal documentation has begun to be analysed in order to design an action plan to gradually draft documents bilingually, based on a criteria of usefulness.

Local entities

The Basque services of municipalities and associations of municipalities are a major mover of language, cultural, sporting, and youth-related activities. Experts in Basque usually work in coordination with municipal experts in culture, sports, and youth at the local entities where such experts exist. In municipalities, or associations of municipalities, with larger population there is usually an expert in each of these areas (culture, sports, and youth). In small entities there is only one expert working in all three areas.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

Please see the information on courses taught in Basque by Instituto Cervantes and the information described in Article 8 - Education.

Article 13 – Economic and social life

1. With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, within the whole country:

a to eliminate from their legislation any provision prohibiting or limiting without justifiable reasons the use of regional or minority languages in documents relating to economic or social life, particularly contracts of employment, and in technical documents such as instructions for the use of products or installations;

b to prohibit the insertion in internal regulations of companies and private documents of any clauses excluding or restricting the use of regional or minority languages, at least between users of the same language;

c to oppose practices designed to discourage the use of regional or minority languages in connection with economic or social activities;

d to facilitate and/or encourage the use of regional or minority languages by means other than those specified in the above sub-paragraphs.

2. With regard to economic and social activities, the Parties undertake, in so far as the public authorities are competent, within the territory in which the regional or minority languages are used, and as far as this is reasonably possible

a to include in their financial and banking regulations provisions which allow, by means of procedures compatible with commercial practice, the use of regional or minority languages in drawing up payment orders (cheques, drafts, etc.) or other financial documents, or, where appropriate, to ensure the implementation of such provisions;

b in the economic and social sectors directly under their control (public sector), to organise activities to promote the use of regional or minority languages;

c to ensure that social care facilities such as hospitals, retirement homes and hostels offer the possibility of receiving and treating in their own language persons using a regional or minority language who are in need of care on grounds of ill-health, old age or for other reasons;

d to ensure by appropriate means that safety instructions are also drawn up in regional or minority languages;

e to arrange for information provided by the competent public authorities concerning the rights of consumers to be made available in regional or minority languages.

Commerce and industry

The First Strategic Plan for Basque (2016-2019) has set forth a strategic pillar for development in this area.

The aim is to increase the presence and use of Basque in shops, professional services and companies through the following initiatives:

1. Promotion initiatives such as supporting the launching of Basque language plans in the workplace, designing initiatives for companies to increase the number of services they offer in Basque, launching actions to promote the presence of Basque in the language landscape of commerce, and studying the inclusion of language criteria in grants calls targeting the socio-economic sector.

2. Collaboration to organize, in coordination with local entities, campaigns to increase the use of Basque in the sphere of commerce, and to analyse, together with professional and commercial associations, the options available for disseminating information about services offered in Basque.

3. Creation of different forums so that trade union representatives, employer associations, consumer and user associations, and representatives from Basque language-related associations may meet and analyse ways of promoting Basque.

4. Training and resources: Analysing options to facilitate initial and lifelong training in Basque for the staff of companies; introducing Basque in the training offered by the Navarre Employment Service (Nafar Lansare); and producing and identifying the necessary resources for working in Basque (digital dictionaries, repository of standardized documents, specific websites, etc.). And then presenting them to professionals and creating a contact point for companies and labour organizations so that they may clarify any doubts, concerns and needs relating to the use of Basque.

Article 14 – Transfrontier exchanges

The Parties undertake

a to apply existing bilateral and multilateral agreements which bind them with the States in which the same language is used in identical or similar form, or if necessary to seek to conclude such agreements, in such a way as to foster contacts between the users of the same language in the States concerned in the fields of culture, education, information, vocational training and permanent education;

b for the benefit of regional or minority languages, to facilitate and/ or promote co-operation across borders, in particular between regional or local authorities in whose territory the same language is used in identical or similar form.

Two transfrontier education and leisure programmes were mentioned in the section describing information on educational programmes: the Luzaide/Valcarlos and Arnegi transfrontier educational project, and the possibility of exchanges for leisure activities offered by the new Specific Collaboration Agreement between the Basque Government's Department of Culture and Language Policy, the Navarre Government's Department of Institutional and Public Relations, and the French Basque Country's Public Office for the Basque Language.

Moreover, the *Foral* Community of Navarre's accession to the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation "Euroregion New Aquitaine/Euskadi", which is now, accordingly, the "Euroregion New Aquitaine/Euskadi/Navarre", offers the possibility, through projects and grants calls, of carrying out transfrontier collaboration programmes and projects in different spheres.

A call for projects in the spheres of multilingualism, youth mobility, culture and Euroregional citizenship was launched in April. The amount of 400,000 euros has been allocated to this procedure to support cooperation actors. A total of 23 transfrontier projects have been selected: 13 of them are educational projects, 3 are multilingualism projects, 6 are education and youth projects, and one of them is a sports project. In the vast majority of projects receiving grants, Basque is an element of transfrontier interaction.

THE OCCITAN LANGUAGE, NAMED ARANESE IN THE ARAN VALLEY

INTRODUCTION

Occitan is the historical language of the territory of the Aran Valley. This local variety of the Occitan language is commonly named Aranese in the territory itself.

Catalonia's 1979 Statute of Autonomy set forth, in Article 3.4, that "Aranese shall be taught and shall be granted special respect and protection". Since then, other legal texts have further enhanced that recognition. Noteworthy before 2006 are the 1983 Act on Language Normalization, which dedicated Title V to normalizing the use of Aranese; the 1990 Act on the Aran Valley's special regime, which set forth the exercise of powers regarding education and culture by the Government of the Aran Valley (Conselh Generau d'Aran); and Act 1/1998 on Language Policy, which established for Aranese the same recognition as for Catalan.

In 2006, Catalonia's Statute of Autonomy recognized, in Article 6.5, the Occitan language as official in all of Catalonia. However, it must be noted that this was to take place in stages, as the Statute refers to a subsequent Act on its regulation, and to other provisions in the Statute itself with regard to language rights. In 2010, the Catalan Parliament approved Act 35/2010, of 1 October, on Occitan, known as Aranese in Aran, implementing the Statute's provision.

This legal framework in stages reflects a double intensity of official recognition depending on the territorial scope in which it is applied. On the one hand, territorial official recognition in the Aran Valley itself, where Occitan has the legal status of an own language, and legal protection entitlements similar to those of the Catalan language in the rest of Catalonia. On the other hand, extraterritorial official recognition outside the Aran Valley, in all of Catalonia, which requires the Catalan Government (or Generalitat) and the Catalan Parliament to guarantee the language rights of those persons who wish to communicate in Aranese Occitan, either orally or in writing, with the public administrations located in Catalonia.

Language area

Most of the geographic area of the Occitan language can be found in France, where it approximately covers the southern third of the country. Also part of the Occitan language area are 18 Alpine valleys in Piedmont and Liguria (Italy), known as the Occitan *valadas* (4,500 km² and 200,000 inhabitants); the Principality of Monaco (2 km² and 31,800 inhabitants); the Aran Valley in Catalonia (633.6 km² and 10,056 inhabitants); and the Occitan-speaking enclave of Guardia Piemontese (21 km² and 1,863 inhabitants, *La Gàrdia* in Occitan) in the region of Calabria (Italy).

The map below illustrates the language area of Occitan and its principal dialects (in colour)—with the exception of the Calabrese town of La Gàrdia—next to the language area of Catalan (in grey).



Number of speakers

In 1920, linguist Jules Ronjat estimated the number of Occitan speakers at approximately 10 million in France alone. Today we are faced with a generalized lack of reliable statistical data, as we already said in our preceding report (2010-2012), regarding the entire language area, because most of it is in France.

The size of the Aran Valley is 633.6 km². As regards this reporting period, a Survey on the Population's Language Use (EULP) was conducted in 2013.

According to this EULP, the total population of the Aran Valley is 10,090 people, of whom 80.7% understand Aranese and 55.6% speak it. The use of Aranese as a habitual language has been on the decline since 2008. Aranese is the habitual language of 17.6% of the area's population, with Catalan as the main language of 16.4% of the population, and Castilian the main language of 55.1% of the population. 10.6% of the population speak other languages or combines them.

Legislation and regulations regarding the Aranese language

- Decree 12/2014, of 21 January, granting the Institute for Aranese Studies (Institut d'Estudis Aranès) the status of academy and language authority for Occitan, the own language of the Aran Valley and an official language of Catalonia.
- The Decree implements the mandate set forth in Article 4.3 of Catalan Act 35/2010 on Occitan. Pursuant to said Article, the Institute for Aranese Studies, which until then had been a self-governing body of the Aranese administration, became an independent public-law body exercising language authority as an Academy over the Aranese variety of the Occitan language, in Catalonia.
- The Decree explicitly sets forth, as principles for academic action, the unity of the Occitan language and classical spelling in accordance with the grammar and linguistic works of Loïs Alibèrt. Thus, it also sets forth a mandate for collaboration with bodies, institutions and entities from the entire Occitan area, in order to establish a linguistic norm of reference for the entire language.
- Act 1/2015, of 5 February, on the special regime of Aran.

- From the point of view of language legislation, the most important milestone was the approval of Act 1/2015. The official nature of Occitan in Catalonia had already been addressed in Catalan Act 35/2010, of 1 October, on Occitan, known as Aranese in Aran. However, the new Act 1/2015 includes different Articles on language, which consolidate aspects that had appeared in Act 35/2010.
 - Article 8 of Act 1/2015 once again recognizes the Occitan nature of the Aranese language, and legally strengthens Occitan as the own language of Aran, as well as its habitual and preferential use by the public administrations in Aran. It also sets forth its vehicular nature in education and schools in Aran, as well as the coordination of language policies with the Catalan Government to foster Occitan in spheres such as the Justice administration.
 - Said Article 8, thus, states the legal consequences of Occitan being the own language of Aran, which were already listed in Catalan Act 35/2010, of 1 October, on Occitan, known as Aranese in Aran, which has currently been suspended because the Government of Spain challenged it before the Constitutional Court on 27 July 2011. Article 8.3 of Act 1/2015 includes the principle, set forth in Organic Law 6/2006 (Article 6.5), that Occitan “is official in Catalonia”. As for the recognition of language rights, Article 9 of the Act sets forth people’s right to know and use the language, to receive attention in Aranese Occitan, and the validity of any document written in Aranese Occitan.
 - Thus, Act 1/2015 collects the rights recognized in different provisions of Act 35/2010 (Articles 3, 8, 9.1 and 10.1) and completes them, to the extent that in addition to “all of the public administrations in Aran”, these rights also affect “the public and private entities attached to them” and include the right to engage in correspondence in the Aranese variety (Article 9.1).
 - Chapter V (Article 46) addresses the Institute for Aranese Studies. In this case, the provisions implemented by the above-mentioned Decree 12/2014 acquire a higher legal rank, and said Institute becomes consolidated as an independent public-law corporation that is academic in nature. As for “promoting, normalizing and regulating the use of Occitan”, Act 1/2015 recognizes the General Council of Aran [Consell Generau d’Aran] full powers on language in the territory of Aran, “pursuant to the general laws in force in all of Catalonia on language policy and education” (Article 51.1), and sets forth the mandate for the Aranese Government to collaborate with other Occitan language territories for its promotion and protection. This Article stipulates cooperation with the Catalan Government (Article 51.4 sets forth that the Catalan Generalitat and Spain’s Central Administration must cooperate “pursuant to their competences”), and is complemented by Article 81, which also sets forth that the Generalitat must project and promote Occitan in its international recognition.
 - Lastly, Article 76 includes the defence of Aranese place-names, and Article 84, on the Catalan and Aranese Governments’ Bilateral Committee, sets forth, among the functions of said Bilateral Committee, coordination on the normalization and language policy of Occitan, as well as its financing.
- Act 5/2017, of 28 March, on tax, administrative, financial and public-sector measures.
- Through this Act, certain legal measures with regard to Occitan have been added:
 - a) the possibility of obtaining tax benefits for donations made to activities promoting the Occitan language. This includes donations to entities such as the Institute for Aranese Studies.
 - b) legal certification, pursuant to EU law, for the free professional exercise of, the regulation of access to, and the activity of sworn translation and interpretation. This

regulation, which to date had been carried out for Catalan, incorporates and includes the Occitan language for the first time.

PART II

Article 7 – Objectives and principles

Paragraph 1.

In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:

a the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;

b the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language, in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;

c the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;

d the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;

e the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;

f the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;

g the provision of facilities enabling non-speakers of a regional or minority language living in the area where it is used to learn it if they so desire;

h the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;

i the promotion of appropriate types of transnational exchanges, in the fields covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used in identical or similar form in two or more States.

The public authorities recognize the importance of own languages such as Aranese in the Aran Valley, and work to make such languages means of communication in all spheres of life, without prejudice to the need to learn Castilian and foreign languages such as English or French. All of this is done within a European framework of ongoing cooperation and promotion of languages—whether or not they are minority languages—as elements that connect us.

d the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;

Occitan agenda

Since 2013, the Generalitat's Directorate-General for Language Policy has had a specific agenda of actions to promote measures fostering Occitan in Catalonia. Said measures are part of the implementation of Catalan Act 35/2010, of 1 October, on Occitan, known as Aranese in Aran.

Annual Report on Language Policy

Every year, the Directorate-General for Language Policy drafts a language policy report. Since 2012, this report includes information on the status of Aranese Occitan, as well as information about different activities and initiatives relating to the Occitan language carried out by the different public administrations. The report presents the principal sociolinguistic data and is presented yearly in an informative session at the Catalan Parliament.

Funding

As for financial resources in this reporting period, the context of budget constraints aimed at achieving the EU's public deficit reduction targets has been maintained. However, in 2016 and in the legal framework of budget extension, there was a significant increase in resources aimed at actions promoting the Occitan language, thus exceeding the total amount of resources allocated before 2011. Until then, they amounted to approximately 100,000 euros. In 2016, the Directorate-General for Language Policy allocated 142,500 euros to Occitan.

a) Funding of the Institute for Aranese Studies - Aranese Academy of the Occitan Language

After the Institute for Aranese Studies was created as a new independent academic body exercising language authority on the Aranese modality of Occitan in Catalonia (the above-mentioned Decree 12/2014), and after it was formally constituted with all of its members in July 2015, the Catalan Government's Culture Department has worked to provide the Institute with financial resources so that it may initiate and carry out activities. In this regard, in 2016 the Institute was awarded a 30,000 euro grant, and in 2017, a 40,000 euro budget allocation from the Generalitat's budget for that year was approved.

b) Grants for the dissemination of the Occitan language

In this reporting period, the Catalan Government's Culture Department has given annual grants to the entity Cercle d'Agermanament Occitano-Català (CAOC) to carry out yearly dissemination programmes of the Occitan language and culture in Catalonia. CAOC also teaches yearly courses in standard Occitan at four levels: A1, A2, B1 and B2. Said grant was awarded directly and in a context of a lack of private associations or entities interested in the Occitan language. The annual grant has been approximately 20,000 euros/year, and in 2016 it was increased to 25,000 euros.

c) New line of grants

In this reporting period new initiatives have appeared, interested in the Occitan language and culture, such as *Jornalet*, a digital informative gazette in Occitan, which was first published on 31 March 2012 in Barcelona. Therefore, the Catalan Government's Culture Department decided to create a new list of grants for activities to promote Occitan in Catalonia, which has recently been launched by Resolution CLT/1226/2017, of 25 May, approving the specific bases for awarding grants aimed at promoting the knowledge and use of Occitan, known as Aranese in Aran, in Catalonia. The corresponding grants call was made on 12 June 2017, and at the time of writing this report, it is in the phase of submitting and selecting applications.

d) Tax deductions

The Catalan Government has extended to the Occitan language an instrument for tax reductions in the regional tranche of Spain's Personal Income Tax (IRPF), for donations made to promoting the language. This instrument has been in place for several years for the Catalan language; starting in 2017 it incorporates donations made by individuals to private non-profit-making entities to promote the use of Occitan. It also includes donations made to the Institute for Aranese Studies for the same purpose. In March 2017, the Catalan Parliament approved the necessary legal amendment for this purpose, and it will complete its implementation in 2018 with the development of specific rules for creating a list of entities promoting Occitan in Catalonia.

The Act stipulates a deduction of 15% of the amounts of donations, to a limit of 10% of the gross tax payable at the regional level. This initiative constitutes a significant incentive for organizations and private non-profit-making entities to include among its goals actions to promote the Occitan language.

Lastly, we will now refer to the use of Occitan in the Catalan Parliament.

Translation of Catalan laws. Adaptation of the Catalan Parliament's language services

The legal obligation to translate all laws into Occitan required the adaptation of the Catalan Parliament's language advisory services, which took on that responsibility and, evidently, undertook the additional work involved in managing another language version.

Thus, in order to adapt to this new need, the language advisory services have worked in different areas, noteworthy among which are the training of language experts and the availability of material resources. In recent years, the Catalan Parliament's language experts have been given two courses in Aranese Occitan: A beginner's course in Aranese Occitan in 2010, and a course in translating legislative texts from Catalan into Aranese Occitan in 2015.

In addition to this training, the language advisory services have received or acquired bibliographic materials on Occitan: dictionaries, grammars and other reference works.

Translation of other parliamentary texts

Even though translating laws is what takes up most of the time of the Catalan Parliament's language services, it must not be forgotten that laws are not the only texts translated into Occitan. As we said at the beginning, the Act on Occitan, known as Aranes in Aran, also sets forth the obligation to translate provisions, decisions and agreements especially affecting Aran. Thus, all of the Catalan Parliament's decisions and motions that include points referring directly to Aran are translated into Occitan. For example, Decision 115/XI, on the development of Catalan Act 35/2010 on Occitan, known as Aranese in ARan, which was also published in Occitan in the Catalan Parliament's Official Gazette (BOPC).

In addition to the texts approved, the BOPC also publishes in Occitan any proposals for decisions, questions to the Government, and other initiatives submitted by Members of Parliament or by Parliamentary Groups to the Parliament's Register in Occitan. In this case, the language services do not participate, because parliamentary initiatives are texts by Members of Parliament or by Parliamentary Groups and, therefore, are published without the language services review, as they were submitted to the Register and in the language in which they were submitted.

There is yet another type of texts that the Parliament makes in Occitan, namely letters, invitations and other communications addressed by the parliamentary bodies, such as the Speaker, to institutions and personalities of Aran. Naturally, out of respect for the Aran Valley's own language, all of these administrative texts are written and sent in Occitan.

Oral interventions

Another aspect of the Catalan Parliament where Occitan is present is in debates, either in plenary sessions or in the committees. Occitan-speaking Members of Parliament can take part in these debates in their own language. The proximity between Catalan and Occitan makes simultaneous interpretation unnecessary. Members of Parliament can understand interventions in Occitan without major difficulties. This contributes positively to the language normalization of Occitan in Catalan institutions. In the current term of Parliament, after the elections of September 2015, a Member of Parliament usually makes her interventions entirely in Occitan. Other Members of Parliament occasionally make greetings or short interventions in Occitan. It must be added that at times, persons appearing before a committee, usually involving issues relating to Aran or the Occitan culture, also make their interventions in Occitan.

As for the repercussion of these interventions in Occitan on the activity of Parliament's language services, it must be taken into account that all of the debates, both in the plenary sessions and in the committees, are transcribed and published in the Catalan Parliament's Session Minutes (DSPC). Language experts who carry out duties specializing in transcribing oral speeches are responsible for reviewing these transcripts.

Parliamentary debates are transcribed by a team of transcribers, who are also, therefore, responsible for transcribing interventions in Occitan. Then, the transcribed texts are reviewed by the Parliament's language advisers, who verify that the text is faithful to the speech delivered. Afterwards, it is sent to the Government of the Aran Valley (General Council of Aran) for the final review, with utmost respect for the speaker's words. After this final review, the transcript of the plenary or committee session including the intervention in Occitan is published in the DSPC.

At times, there are interventions by persons speaking a variety of Occitan other than Aranese. In such cases, the transcript is not sent to the Government of the Aran Valley, as it only reviews texts written or transcribed in Aranese Occitan. Some of these Occitan speakers agree to do their own review of the transcript of their speech. If that were not possible, the final review is done by the language advisers.

Catalan Parliament website

This website offers part of its content in Aranese Occitan. Specifically, static content relating to the history, structure and functioning of the Catalan Parliament can be found in Occitan, as well as, as stated above, the laws and other approved texts that have a version in Occitan.

e the maintenance and development of links, in the fields covered by this Charter, between groups using a regional or minority language and other groups in the State employing a language used in identical or similar form, as well as the establishment of cultural relations with other groups in the State using different languages;

Since 2012, the Catalan Government's Culture Department has given grants annually for courses in Occitan, in its standard variety, taught by the CAOC in Barcelona. The

CAOC courses are adapted to the levels of learning in the Common European Framework for Languages, and are taught at four levels: A1, A2, B1 and B2. In 2016, the Directorate-General for Language Policy increased its support for those courses so that a C1 course could be designed and taught. This is the first time that a face-to-face C1 course in Occitan is taught in Catalonia. The first course took place in the 2016-2017 academic year in Barcelona.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not yet done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely-used languages.

Catalonia's Statute of Autonomy and Act 35/2010 explicitly recognize the language generally called "Occitan", a name which coexists with the name "Aranese" in the territory of Aran. Thus, it must be noted that when using the term "Aranese", this can either mean "Occitan", as the local name of the general language itself, or it can mean the language modality written and spoken locally, the regional or dialectal variant of the language.

The action of the new Institute for Aranese Studies, as the Aranese Academy of the Occitan language since 2015, with its headquarters in Vielha, will strengthen, in collaboration with other entities in the Aran territory, the proper identification of the language with all of its correct names, and will foster contacts and cultural exchanges in Occitan with persons, groups, entities and institutions in the Occitan cultural space.

Paragraph 4

In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.

Noteworthy here is the creation of the Institute for Aranese Studies, now an Academy and the language authority for Occitan (Decree 12/2014, of 21 January). We referred to this Decree in the Introduction.

PART III

Article 8 – Education

Paragraph 1

Aranese Occitan in Primary Education

The new Catalan Act 1/2015, on the special regime of Aran, includes provisions on education and schools located in Aran, in order to take into account the territory's specific language features and their protection. Unlike the former Act of 1990 on the special regime, which set forth a devolution of education powers which never came to fruition, the new Act defines the powers of the Catalan Government and of the Aranese Government, and so, the General Council of Aran exercises complementary functions.

In parallel with this clarification of powers, there is an explicit safeguard of Aran's own cultural and language aspects. Article 55 of Catalan Act 1/2015 recognizes Aran as a specific educational zone within Catalonia's educational system, in order to facilitate collaboration and participation by Aranese administration in educational affairs.

Noteworthy in this regard is Article 55.3 of Act 1/2015, which sets forth that the General Council of Aran must ensure language syllabi in the Aranese variety of Occitan in Aranese schools. Moreover, the General Council of Aran has powers over the provision of educational services such as, *inter alia*, writing and publishing textbooks and teaching materials, and conversation assistants in the Aranese variety of Occitan, as well as ongoing teacher training in Aran's language and culture.

Pursuant to this new legal framework, in 2017 the Catalan Government's Education Department and the General Council of Aran, in coordination, initiated a process to review teaching materials and curriculum aimed at schools located in Aran, to update them and adapt them to the prevailing language legislation on Occitan language, in all of Primary Education.

Aranese Occitan in Secondary Education

The same process described above, with regard to teaching materials and curricular content involving Aranese language and culture in Aran's primary schools, will be extended to secondary schools.

No substantial changes have taken place in the status of secondary education in the Aran Valley as regards the use of Aranese in this reporting period. In sum, teachers are required to have knowledge of Aranese in order to get a job in a school located in the Aran Valley. Students in compulsory secondary education (12-16 year-olds) receive two weekly hours of Aranese language classes.

Outside of the territory of Aran, the Catalan Education Department promotes offering a variable credit as an elective subject for students in post-compulsory secondary education (16-18 year olds) in the specialities of humanities and languages, through its distance education system (Institut Obert de Catalunya - IOC). The curriculum and syllabus of the subject, called "Introduction to Occitan Language and Culture", were designed in 2013. In the academic year 2014-2015, Occitan language was incorporated as a subject in the IOC's educational offer, pursuant to the provisions of Act 35/2010, on Occitan (Article 16.3).

Occitan language in Higher Education

Since the academic year 2009-2010, the University of Lleida offers a Degree in Catalan and Occitan Studies. It is the only university in Spain that offers a specific degree in Occitan language and culture. There are currently approximately 30 students in the specialization of Occitan Language and Culture.

The Autònoma University of Barcelona has a unit called Occitan Archive, which organizes a cycle of 16 lectures every May, on Occitan language and literature.

The Catalan Summer University, which is held during a week every August in Prada de Conflent (southern France) includes, since 2010, a beginner's course in Occitan language and literature. Since 2015, it also includes an Occitan Film Festival, organized yearly by the Directorate-General for Language Policy, which will be described in Article 12 (Cultural activities and facilities).

Occitan language in Adult Education

The teaching of the Aranese modality or variant of Occitan falls within the powers of the General Council of Aran, with the financial support of the Catalan Government.

Courses are offered annually at five levels (A1, A2, B1, B2 and C1) in the Aran Valley, in Barcelona and in Lleida. However, during this reporting period there has been a significant decrease (more than 50%) in the number of students enrolled in the courses offered in Barcelona and Lleida. As an example, in Barcelona alone, there were some 50 students in 2012, and the number has dropped to 15 in the academic year 2016-2017.

On the other hand, the number of students in Occitan courses for adults, in the standard modality, taught by the Cercle d'Agermanament Occitano Català (CAOC) in Barcelona, continues to grow annually, especially in the year 2016-2017, with the new C1 course, whose organization was subsidized by the Catalan Government's Directorate-General for Language Policy.

g to make arrangements to ensure the teaching of the history and the culture which is reflected by the regional or minority language;

As a complement to the production of textbooks and other teaching materials for Aranese schools, in 2015 the General Council of Aran launched the publication of a collection of illustrated storybooks in Aranese called *Petit país* [The Little Country].

The main purpose of this collection is to promote the use of Aran's language and culture among children, and foster reading habits in Aranese. The stories are about traditional festivities and aspects of daily life in Aran. There are currently eight titles available, most of which were published in 2016. The collection has been completed in 2017 with the publication of two new titles: *Era Hèsta de Magràs* [The Feast of Carnival] and *Era Legenda de Sant Jòrdi* [The Legend of Saint George].

i to set up a supervisory body or bodies responsible for monitoring the measures taken and progress achieved in establishing or developing the teaching of regional or minority languages and for drawing up periodic reports of their findings, which will be made public.

With regard to Aranese, and Occitan in general, the Catalan Government annually drafts a report including the principal sociolinguistic data and the actions carried out in the previous year. The Language Policy Report, drafted pursuant to Article 39 of Act 1/1998 on Language Policy, includes since 2012 a specific section dedicated to the Occitan language. The report is sent to the Catalan Parliament's Culture Committee for its assessment and analysis. For example, the 2015 Report (pages 107-118) can be found at: <http://llengua.gencat.cat/web/.content/documents/informepl/arxiu/IPL-2015-esp.pdf>

Moreover, the joint coordination committee between the governments of Catalonia and of Aran (Consell de Política Lingüística de l'Occità Aranès - COPLOA) was constituted in 2012 and meets annually, alternately in Barcelona and in Vielha. The two administrations exchange information about the different initiatives launched and their plans to foster and protect the Occitan language. Some examples of decisions made in the COPLOA are legislative amendments and innovations such as those included in this report, about tax breaks, or the promotion of Decree 12/2014 on the creation of the language authority for the Occitan language in Catalonia.

Paragraph 2.

With regard to education and in respect of territories other than those in which the regional or minority languages are traditionally used, the Parties undertake, if the number of users of a regional or minority language justifies it, to allow, encourage or provide teaching in or of the regional or minority language at all the appropriate stages of education.

Outside the territory of Aran, courses in Aranese Occitan for adults are taught at the University of Lleida, which also offers the mentioned courses in Aranese with the Degree in Catalan and Occitan studies.

There are also courses in standard Occitan taught by the CAOC in Barcelona. These courses in standard Occitan include references to the Aranese modality.

Lastly, we must once again mention the offer of two beginner's course—one in Occitan language and the other in Occitan literature—offered annually by the Catalan Summer University, held every August in Prada de Conflent (southern France).

Article 9 – Judicial authorities

Please refer to the general information, non-specific to the Autonomous Community, provided with respect to Article 9 of the Charter, and with respect to Recommendations 1 and 2 of the Committee of Ministers, in the section of this report corresponding to Catalan in Catalonia.

Article 10 – Administrative authorities and public services

Paragraph 1

Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:

- a) to ensure that the administrative authorities use the regional or minority languages.***
- b) to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;***
- c) to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.***

In 2012, the Catalan Government began to draft forms from various departments in Aranese Occitan, in order to make it easier to communicate in that language.

It also started to draft the Aranese versions of the information on different Catalan Government websites. It must be noted that the Catalan Parliament website has an Aranese version of all of its elements. Moreover, Catalan Government's institutional websites have been incorporating, since 2012, the respective Aranese versions of the principal information. It must be noted that, since 2013, all of the Catalan administration's information and forms are also available in Aranese at the public information website 012. The principal content of the Catalan Government's access and presentation web pages is also in Aranese.

The following websites, and the corresponding forms included in them, are worth pointing out due to their growing use by and impact on the public:

- Virtual Procedures Office (OVT)
- Catalan Government General Registry
- Catalan Government Web Portal

For their part, the different Catalan Government Departments have adapted their websites to incorporate the Aranese version. In 2015-2016, a change was made to the design and structure of the websites of the entire Catalan Government institutional system; this led to a delay but the incorporation of Aranese resumed in 2016. It must

be noted that many of the Catalan Government bodies' websites were not based on multilingual platforms. With the above-mentioned change in structure and design, multilingual platforms are becoming widespread and can include information in other languages, in addition to English or French.

It must be noted that since 2013, all of the Catalan Police forms and static information in the Aran Valley are available in Aranese.

In 2016, the Culture Department started to include Aranese in mobile phone apps aimed at disseminating cultural heritage, such as "Visitmuseum". This app is still being developed, to include basic information and elements of virtual visits to the country's museums in Aranese.

It must also be noted that the Culture Department has planned to publish, in 2017, the Aranese version of the Protocol to Ensure Language Rights, which was drafted in San Sebastián when it was the European Capital of Culture in 2016.

Paragraph 2.

a the use of regional or minority languages within the framework of the regional or local authority

The Provincial Council of Lleida, which in Spain's legal system is a local administration supporting municipalities, is promoting the drafting and publication of materials in Aranese for promoting tourism and disseminating the language and culture of the Aran Valley. It is also co-publishing, together with the Culture Department, the Proceedings of the International Congress of the International Association of Occitan Studies (AIEO; Lleida, 2014), which will come out in 2017.

b the possibility for users of regional or minority languages to submit oral or written applications in these languages;

The public can interact in Aranese with local administrations in Aran, if they wish to do so. To date there have been no complaints about not having been able to do so.

As regards the Catalan Government administration, please see the above on the increasing availability of forms, proceedings and websites in Aranese.

But it must also be noted that, pursuant to the official nature of Occitan in all of Catalonia, regulated in Catalan Act 35/2010, all written documents and oral communications in Aranese are admitted and formally accepted without requiring translation into other official languages such as Catalan or Castilian.

e the use by regional authorities of regional or minority languages in debates in their assemblies, without excluding, however, the use of the official language(s) of the State;

In the Catalan Parliament, Aranese is used normally by Members of Parliament who wish to use it, or by the public addressing the Parliament.

In the 2012-2015 term of the Catalan Parliament, a Member of Parliament was from Aran—and at the same time Mayor of Vielha—and regularly spoke at plenary sessions and committees in Aranese. Since 2015, the Parliament has had two Aranese Members from different political groups, one of whom has spoken mostly in Aranese during his parliamentary work and activities.

The Catalan Parliament's publications, session minutes and official gazette include transcripts in Aranese of said addresses. They also publish documents submitted in

Aranese in their original language, with no accompanying translation. When a document is originally in Catalan or Castilian and affects or refers to the territory of Aran or to Aranese linguistic or cultural matters, then it is accompanied by a version in Aranese.

Members of the Catalan Government have on occasion used Aranese when responding to parliamentary questions or appeals made by Aranese Members or in Aranese.

g the use or adoption, if necessary in conjunction with the name in the official language(s), of traditional and correct forms of place-names in regional or minority languages.

The only official and correct Aran Valley place-names are those in the Occitan form, pursuant to Catalan Act 1/1998, on Language Policy.

Paragraph 4

With a view to putting into effect those provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 accepted by them, the Parties undertake to take one or more of the following measures:

a translation or interpretation as may be required;

An automatic translation website is available, freely accessible and free of charge. It provides translations from Catalan and Castilian into Aranese Occitan and general Occitan, and viceversa. In 2016, the Directorate-General for Language Policy, which provides this service, commissioned a study on this software's updating and improvement needs.

b recruitment and, where necessary, training of the officials and other public service employees required;

Legislation and practice continue to require that staff working for territorial administrations have knowledge of Occitan. The recommendations of Catalonia's Advisory Board for Administrative Procurement also set forth the use of Aranese Occitan in administrative procurement and hiring.

Royal Legislative Decree 5/2015, of 30 October, approving the consolidated text of the Act on the Basic Statute of Public Employees, stipulates, with regard to the use of languages, the following:

Article 54. Principles of conduct:

11. [Public employees shall] guarantee that the public is served in the language of their choice provided that said language is official in the territory.

Access to public employment and to the service relationship:

Article 56. General requirements

2. Public administration, within the scope of their powers, shall set forth the selection of public employees with the appropriate skills to fill positions in Autonomous Communities which have two official languages.

Knowledge of co-official languages shall continue to be taken into consideration in filling positions in territories with more than one co-official language.

Article 11 – The Media

Paragraph 1.

1. The Parties undertake, for the users of the regional or minority languages within the territories in which those languages are spoken, according to the situation of each language, to the extent that the public authorities, directly or indirectly, are competent, have power or play a role in this field, and respecting the principle of the independence and autonomy of the media:

a to the extent that radio and television carry out a public service mission:

i to ensure the creation of at least one radio station and one television channel in the regional or minority languages.

Catalonia's Audiovisual Council (CAC) works to ensure that the Catalan and Aranese Occitan languages are increasingly present in radio and television. To this end, the CAC unanimously approved two agreements stipulating a minimum quota for vocal music in Catalan, which affected a total of 11 radio stations. Service providers could request a reduction, by virtue of Agreement 295/2007, which approved the CAC's Instruction on the presence of Catalan language and culture and Aranese in the media. Pursuant to this Instruction, specific adaptations may be made of the rule that requires vocal music programming to have an appropriate presence of songs produced by Catalan artists and that at least 25% of them are sung in Catalan or in Aranese.

As for Aranese in particular, the existence of a 24-hour news channel ("3/24") in Aranese Occitan is guaranteed, and the Catalunya Ràdio radio station also broadcasts frequently in Aranese. Said information can be found at <http://www.ccma.cat/aranes/>. In addition to this, the Catalan Corporation of Audiovisual Media also makes many resources available to the public in Aranese.

The Catalan public TV station Televisió de Catalunya (TVC) has continued offering programmes in Aranese for all of Catalonia, programmes broadcast only in the Aran Valley, and programmes in dual audio with the option of Aranese.

- The 3/24 channel is still broadcasting the programme *Ròda informativa*.
- TV3 broadcasts the programme *TN Comarques Val d'Aran* only for the Aran Valley, with the purpose of offering current local events.
- Channel 33 broadcast the documentary series *Es Pirenèus des der aire*. Super3 broadcast 187 editions of the *Ua man de condes* programme, a series of 5-minute episodes broadcast Monday through Friday at 6 pm, as well as episodes of the TV series *La Lua i el món*.

As for radio, the Catalunya Ràdio station broadcast nearly 400 hours in Aranese for the Aran Valley: the magazine programme *Aran, meddia aranés*, broadcast daily at lunchtime, and the news broadcast *Catalonha informació en aranés*, Monday through Friday at 8.00, via Catalunya Informació.

- Barcelona Televisión (BTV) has continued broadcasting news programmes in Aranese, within the *Info idiomas* programme, which was aimed at informing the different communities living in the city of Barcelona of current issues.
- Lleida TV. This private TV channel broadcasts daily in Aranese for the entire province.

i to encourage and/or facilitate the creation and/or maintenance of at least one newspaper in the regional or minority languages

There is a digital newspaper in Aranese, *Jornalet*, which was launched on 31 March 2012 in Barcelona. In 2017 it will celebrate its 5th anniversary with different events for its readers. The Catalan Government's Culture Department hosted an official event on

digital language models in Occitan, on the occasion of said 5th anniversary, on 27 April 2017.

ii to apply existing measures for financial assistance also to audiovisual productions in the regional or minority languages;

The Catalan Government awards annual grants to media in Catalan or Aranese, and to communication projects that aim to incorporate Catalan or Aranese into their programmes or sections.

Between 2013 and 2016, these grants were provided in nine specific areas, divided by medium (print, digital media, radio and television) and purpose. While structural grants are designed to ensure the continuity of media supplied in Catalan or Aranese, project grants contribute to the creation of new initiatives that benefit communication in Catalan:

- Structural grants for private digital media in Catalan or Aranese.
- Structural grants for private radio stations in Catalan or Aranese.
- Structural grants for private TV stations in Catalan or Aranese.
- Structural grants for publishing print periodicals in Catalan or Aranese.
- Grants for not-for-profit entities for projects in Catalan or Aranese contributing to promote journalism and the Catalan space for communication.

The following table shows the grants awarded to media during the 2013-2016 period, by line of grants offered:

LINE OF GRANTS	2013	2014	2015	2016
Structural grants for private digital media in Catalan or Aranese	€981,298.98	€1,212,269.83	€1,379,451.94	€1,480,301.88
Structural grants for private radio stations in Catalan or Aranese	€535,405.71	€543,189.99	€563,238.70	€569,378.50
Structural grants for private TV stations in Catalan or Aranese	€603,792.30	€585,659.01	€548,768.25	€570,000.00
Structural grants for publishing print periodicals in Catalan or Aranese	€4,043,161.47	€4,094,334.77	€4,054,638.82	€3,891,874.86
Grants for not-for-profit entities for projects in Catalan or Aranese contributing to promote journalism and the Catalan space for communication	€0.00	€801,220.00	€812,914.00	€794,500.00

The following table shows the number of dossiers processed, by the type of media to which they were addressed, in the 2013-2016 period

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Print media	205	211	203	199
Digital media	62	66	68	87
Radio	15	15	15	19
TV	22	24	19	20
Associations		32	23	26
Total Dossiers	304	348	328	351

Article 12 – Cultural activities and facilities

Paragraph 1.

With regard to cultural activities and facilities – especially libraries, video libraries, cultural centres, museums, archives, academies, theatres and cinemas, as well as literary work and film production, vernacular forms of cultural expression, festivals and the culture industries, including inter alia the use of new technologies – the Parties undertake, within the territory in which such languages are used and to the extent that the public authorities are competent, have power or play a role in this field:

a) to encourage types of expression and initiative specific to regional or minority languages and foster the different means of access to works produced in these language;

The Catalan Institute of Cultural Companies (ICEC), which until 2011 was called the Catalan Institute of Cultural Industries (ICIC), is a body under the Catalan Government's Culture Department, created in 2000 for the purpose of promoting artistic creativity and the production, distribution and dissemination of cultural content, through the development of cultural companies and by fostering consumption of cultural works and the expansion of markets for Catalan culture.

Its main lines of action are the awarding of grants and assistance to Catalan companies for the production, promotion, distribution and dissemination of culture, and for the restoration and improvement of equipment; collaboration with other entities and organizations for the promotion of cultural dissemination and consumption; and support for the promotion abroad of professional projects through participation in international trade fairs and events, thus facilitating these companies' access to international markets.

During this period, ICEC has annually offered different lines of grants to support audiovisual production in which the use of Catalan or Aranese is an element of added value.

- Grants for improving audiovisual projects that are under development
- Grants for the production of feature films and large-scale productions
- Grants to foster the screening and distribution of feature films and large-scale productions
- Grants for the production of short films
- Grants for the production of feature films with artistic and cultural merit
- Grants aimed at independent production companies for producing documentary films for TV broadcast
- Grants aimed at independent production companies for producing TV fiction feature films for TV broadcast

Books

From 2013 to 2016, assistance for production and promotion was maintained to ensure the competitiveness of books in Catalan and promote books in Aranese, and reading itself. Thus, different lines of support were offered:

- Support for production. Assistance for production is combined with commercialization, so that their entry into the market is guaranteed.
 - § Grants for publishing in Catalan or Occitan, and for publishing sheet music by Catalan composers.
 - § Grants for publishing materials of special cultural interest in Catalan or Occitan, and for publishing sheet music of special cultural interest

- Support for distribution and promotion.
 - § Grants for activities aimed at the public or at the media, for promoting individual books or collections of books in Catalan or Occitan.

- Trade fairs, festivals and markets.
 - § In order to strengthen the book industry and give visibility to books in Catalan, ICEC has a Trade Fair Plan, at the territorial level, paying particular attention to the thematic diversity of publications, to bringing publications closer to the public, and to establishing a calendar of trade fairs, so that books are in the news throughout the year.

To do this, and with the aim of increasing the presence of Catalan and Occitan in the sphere of publishing, several grants are awarded each year.

The Culture Department, through ICEC's lines of grants for audiovisual productions, includes among the assessment criteria the production of original versions, and since 2015 specifically sets forth the possibility of original versions in Aranese. These grants include feature films, TV feature films and series, and TV animation films (Decision CLT/2953/2015, of 26 November).

b to foster the different means of access in other languages to works produced in regional or minority languages by aiding and developing translation, dubbing, post-synchronisation and subtitling activities;

In order to promote cinema in Occitan, the Catalan Government has continued to support the Mòstra de Cinèma Occitan Film Festival, as a means for the dissemination of Occitan language and culture. The Mòstra de Cinèma Occitan offers a panoramic view of Occitan language and culture through audiovisual creations, and contributes to building a screening network, in Catalonia and the Occitan language zone, with the collaboration of Catalan institutions, cultural entities and companies in said zone.

Information about the Mòstra de Cinèma Occitan during the 2008-2016 period can be found at the following website:

http://llengua.gencat.cat/ca/occita/80_esdeveniments_notoris/mostra-cinema-occitan/edicions-anteriors/

d to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities of various kinds make appropriate allowance for incorporating the knowledge and use of regional or minority languages and cultures in the undertakings which they initiate or for which they provide backing;

In our previous report we gave examples of lines of grants from the Catalan Government's Culture Department in which the use of Catalan or Occitan, Aranese in Aran, is an element that is assessed, although it does not usually determine the

awarding of the grant. During the present reporting period, these lines of grants have been continued annually, with an increase in eligible areas.

e to promote measures to ensure that the bodies responsible for organising or supporting cultural activities have at their disposal staff who have a full command of the regional or minority language concerned, as well as of the language(s) of the rest of the population;

Legislation sets forth the requirement for staff who report to the territorial administrations to know Catalan, as well as Aranese Occitan in Aran. The recommendations of Catalonia's Advisory Board for Administrative Procurement also set forth the use of Aranese Occitan in administrative procurement and hiring.

h if necessary, to create and/or promote and finance translation and terminological research services, particularly with a view to maintaining and developing appropriate administrative, commercial, economic, social, technical or legal terminology in each regional or minority language.

Decree 12/2014 of the Catalan Government established the Institute for Aranese Studies, as an Academy. Its constitution process finalized in July 2015, and it started organizing activities in 2016. One of these activities is the production of lexicographic reference works in Aranese for use in schools. The project was designed in 2017, and is currently being implemented in a participative process that includes volunteers and schools located in Aran, who contribute to define the priority areas that need to be addressed.

Paragraph 3.

The Parties undertake to make appropriate provision, in pursuing their cultural policy abroad, for regional or minority languages and the cultures they reflect.

Pursuant to Articles 20 and 21 of Act 35/2010, of 1 October, on Occitan, Aranese in Aran, the Catalan Government, within its powers, must foster the production of press and periodicals printed in the Aranese variety of Occitan, and must encourage and promote the presence of products and information in Aranese in electronic information and communication networks; moreover, it must protect the own language of Aran in every sphere and sector, foster its use, dissemination and knowledge, and adopt the necessary measures to promote its normalization.

In compliance with these Articles, the Department of Institutional and External Affairs and Relations and Transparency has commissioned a total of 43 translations into Aranese in order to promote the language abroad.

The translations into Aranese have been for websites, such as the Transparency Portal and participa.gencat, for the weekly e-bulletin Noticias Actualidad Parlamentaria [Current Parliamentary News] and the journal Actividad parlamentaria [Parliamentary Activity], issue 29 (September 2016), and certain forms for the Genetic Identification Programme. For its part, the Mòstra de Cinèma Occitan organized by the Directorate-General for Language Policy has been present in several film festivals of minority languages and cultures in Italy: in 2015 in Udine (Friuli) and Cagliari (Sardinia), in 2016 in Grecia Salentina (Puglia).

Article 13 – Economic and social life

Pursuant to Article 128.1 of Catalan Act 22/2010, on the Consumer Code, the Catalan Government must also ensure the promotion of the use of Occitan Aranese in

consumer relations (Article 128-1.3. Moreover, it must be recalled that Article 23 of Act 35/2010 on Occitan gives the public authorities the mandate to guarantee language rights in Aranese, while setting forth diverse possible promotion measures, such as agreements, grants or tax breaks.

We must once again refer to Catalan Act 1/2015, on the special regime of Aran, which includes new provisions that make it possible to better demarcate the powers of the different public administrations.

On the one hand, Article 9 of said Act strengthens the legal protection of the language rights already included in Catalonia's Statute of Autonomy (2006), and the aforementioned Act 35/2010. It sets forth that in Aran everyone has the right to be receive attention in Aranese, orally and in writing, as users or consumers. On the other, Article 23 of the same Act 1/2015 sets forth that the General Council of Aran is responsible for defending consumers' and users' rights and legitimate interests.

B) Co-official languages in the General State Administration

1. PREAMBLE

In general, the figure of the COUNCIL OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES IN THE GENERAL STATE ADMINISTRATION ought to be highlighted. The Council is an inter-ministerial collegiate body, attached to the Secretariat of State for Regional Administrations (Ministry of the Presidency and for Territorial Administrations), and created by Royal Decree 905/2007, of 6 January, in charge of development, analysis, impulse and technical coordination in the General State Administration of the use of the official languages of the Autonomous Communities.

Since the presentation of Spain's last periodic report, the Council has held a meeting on 9 May 2017. This has been the 4th meeting of this body, chaired by the Secretary of State for Territorial Administrations, and with the participation of all the Ministries and key bodies in matters of co-official languages, such as the Official State Gazette (BOE) or the Institute for the Public Administrations (INAP). The lack of Council meetings since 2010 has been due to the context of economic crisis that has affected Spain during this period, and which has required focusing a large part of the Government's policies on tax consolidation to meet the demands of the European Union in this regard. However, this has not prevented the Office for Languages from continuing to carry out its functions as a permanent support body for the Languages Council, carrying out its task of analysing and monitoring compliance with the requirements arising from the existence of different languages and of their recognition in the activity of the Ministries and of the public bodies that report or are linked thereto.

Some of the items on the Agenda discussed in the 4th Meeting of the Council were the following:

- Information from the Ministries and other bodies of the General State Administration on the situation and actions regarding co-official languages;
- Accessibility in co-official languages of the websites of the General State Administration;
- Information on compliance with the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages of the Council of Europe: next presentation of the Fifth Report of Spain, relating to the period 2014-2016.
- Activity of the Office for Official Languages in the General State Administration: commission for the preparation of a diagnostic study.

Additionally, it is also noteworthy that the Council in its meetings has examined, in this and in the sessions held previously, the status of complaints and claims in this area made by citizens, and a significant decline in their number in recent years has been noted.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARTICLES OF THE CHARTER

Article 10

Paragraph 1

Within the administrative districts of the State in which the number of residents who are users of regional or minority languages justifies the measures specified below and according to the situation of each language, the Parties undertake, as far as this is reasonably possible:

- a to ensure that the administrative authorities use regional or minority languages;***
- b to make available widely used administrative texts and forms for the population in the regional or minority languages or in bilingual versions;***

c to allow the administrative authorities to draft documents in a regional or minority language.

It can be said that, in general terms, in the period of follow-up of this report, all the bodies of the General State Administration have maintained, and in many cases have increased, the number of existing documents in co-official languages with respect to those that existed in the period corresponding to the previous report of Spain.

The following aspects ought to be highlighted by Ministries in this matter:

- **Ministry of Employment and Social Security**

YEAR	2014		2015		2016	
LANGUAGE	No. OF COURSES Convening agency	No. OF STUDENTS	No. OF COURSES Convening agency	No. OF STUDENTS	No. OF COURSES Convening agency	No. OF STUDENTS
Catalan	Delegation of the Government of Catalonia (INAP) 4 courses or levels	9	Delegation of the Government of Catalonia (INAP) 7 courses or levels	9	Delegation of the Government of Catalonia (INAP) 5 courses or levels	12
Catalan	INSS (contracting company) 1 course	11				
Basque					Delegation of the Government of the Basque Country (INAP) 1 course	1
Basque	INSS (Basque inscription). 5	5	INSS (Basque inscription). 6	13	INSS (Basque inscription). 5	10
Basque	INSS (Basque inscription). 8	13	INSS (Basque inscription). 6	10	INSS (Basque inscription). 5	7
Basque	Navarre Institute of Public Administration. 1	1	Navarre Institute of Public Administration. 1	1		

Within the scope of this Ministry, the National Social Security Institute, the Marine Social Institute, and the General Treasury of the Social Security offer versions in the co-official languages of all their forms, forms and forms, being accessible through their corresponding Web page. These Institutes have also carried out their institutional information campaigns in this period in these co-official languages.

The following is detailed information on these developments:

Language training of staff and provision of posts:

National Social Security Institute (INSS)

The training activities for the promotion and development of the use of the co-official languages, in the General State Administration (AGE) and by the INSS, in the period 2014-2016, have been the following:

As of December 2016, the data regarding personnel dedicated to care and information tasks with knowledge of the official languages are the following: in Catalonia, 100% of the workforce is bilingual; in Galicia, 85%; in the Valencian Community, 57%; in Navarre, 35%; in the Balearic Islands, 70%; and in the Basque Country, 20%.

Marine Social Institute (ISM)

The attached table shows the number of ISM workers who have completed specific courses in the co-official languages of their respective Autonomous Communities. These are courses taught by other organizations (practically all of them organised by the INAP through the Government Sub-Delegations) in which the entity facilitates the participation of its employees.

LANGUAGE	PROVINCE	YEAR		
		2014	2015	2016
GALICIAN	CORUNNA	0	0	0
	LUGO	0	0	0
	PONTEVEDRA	0	0	0
BASQUE	BISCAY	1	0	1
	GIPUZKOA	1	1	1
VALENCIAN	ALICANTE	0	0	0
	CASTELLON	0	0	0
	VALENCIA	0	0	0
CATALAN	BALEARIC ISLANDS	0	0	0
	BARCELONA	4	1	0
	TARRAGONA	0	0	0
Total		6	2	2

General Treasury of the Social Security (TGSS)

The General Treasury of the Social Security has been carrying out, in a standardized manner, specific training projects in co-official languages aimed at staff that provide services in Autonomous Communities.

In this sense, during the years 2014 to 2016, Basque language training courses have been taught in the Provincial Directorates of Araba, Biscay and Gipuzkoa, with the following breakdown:

PROVINCIAL MANAGEMENT	YEAR	COURSE No.	HOURS OF TRAINING	ATTENDEES	ATTENDEES ACHIEVING AT LEAST 90% IN THE COURSES	TOTAL COST
ARABA	2014	1	216	8	2	€ 5,909,50
	2015	1	216	2	2	€ 1,718,00
	2016	1	216	2	2	€ 1,718,00

ARABA TOTAL		3	648	12	6	€ 9,345,50
BISCAY	2014	3	300	5	5	€ 1,500,00
	2015	2	210	2	2	€ 600,00
	2016	4	414	4	3	€ 1,315,00
BISCAY TOTAL		9	924	11	10	€ 3,415,00
GIPUZKOA	2014	1	140	9	9	€ 0.00
	2015	1	248	5	5	€ 2,700,00
	2016	1	250	4	4	€ 2,100,00
GIPUZKOA TOTAL		3	638	18	18	€ 4,800,00
GENERAL TOTAL		15	2.210	41	34	€ 17,560,50

Forms & standardized models. Notices & signs:

National Social Security Institute (INSS)

All printed copies, forms and standardized models used in the INSS management are subject to translation into the corresponding co-official languages of the State, using, for distribution, the Social Security website through which they are accessible to citizens.

The state of the models and forms, as of 12 December 2016, indicates that, of the 106 published at that time, 67.92% were available in the co-official languages of the State, which represents a considerable increase over the data of previous periods.

Regarding the publications of interest to workers, professionals and pensioners that are published through the website of the Social Security, it ought to be noted that those with the greatest impact and value such as the Pensioner's Guide, Your Social Security, Letter of Services and Travel Health Assistance in Europe, are translated and maintained permanently in the co-official languages of the State.

Regarding the bilingual signage of the facilities and premises that the Institute has in the Autonomous Communities with their own language, it must be noted that all the 161 centres open to the public in these Communities have signage and signs in a bilingual version.

Marine Social Institute (ISM)

In 2017, most request forms for benefits under the Special Scheme for the Social Security of Sea Workers are available in the co-official languages on the website and at the Social Security Electronic Headquarters.

All communications that can be submitted by the recipients of benefits are available in the co-official languages, on the website and in the Electronic Office of the Social Security.

In practically all the headquarters of the provincial directorates and the local directorates in the regions with co-official languages, there are signs in bilingual format. The percentage of bilingualism in the signage is between 95% and 100%.

General Treasury of the Social Security (TGSS)

The TGSS keeps the forms of the institutional material permanently updated, to guarantee the availability of said documentation in bilingual format or the co-official language. Likewise, when existing forms are rectified, as a consequence of the periodic normative changes, the immediate translation of the new forms, models and printed material that are offered to citizens in paper and electronic format is ensured.

The number of forms in Castilian (new and rectified) translated into the co-official languages are as follows:

STAMPED INSTITUTIONAL MATERIAL					
	CASTILIAN	CATALAN	BASQUE	GALICIAN	VALENCIAN
FORMS (NEW & RECTIFIED) IN 2016	126	126	126	126	126

The existing difference, with respect to the previous report, is due to the normative changes that have introduced variations in the Social Security regimes.

The Social Security website makes the following models of brochures and forms available to citizens in multilingual format:

SUMMARY OF MULTILINGUAL TGSS MODELS/FORMS ONLINE				
	CATALAN	BASQUE	GALICIAN	VALENCIAN
WORKERS REQUESTS				
• AFFILIATION	1	1	1	1
• AFFILIATION/DISAFFILIATION/VARIATION OF DATA	9	9	9	9
• OTHER REQUESTS	3	3	3	3
• SPECIAL AGREEMENT	6	6	6	6
• SPECIAL SELF-EMPLOYED REGIME	9	9	9	9
• SPECIAL SEAFARERS' REGIME	6	6	6	6
BUSINESS REQUESTS	7	7	7	7
DISPLACED WORKERS	1	1	1	1
CONTRIBUTION DOCUMENTS	23	23	23	23
INTERNET	6	6	6	6
DIRECTO NETWORK	5	5	5	5
ADMINISTRATIVE CHALLENGES	5	5	5	5

As of 31 December 2016, of the 145 forms that the TGSS has published on the website, 82 of them are likely to be published in co-official languages; excluding those corresponding to bilateral agreements since the agreement established with the different countries obliges only to have these in the official language of the countries involved; Thus, of the 82 documents mentioned, 81 are available in the 4 co-official languages, that is, 98.78%.

The TGSS guarantees the existence of adequate signage in areas with co-official languages by means of the installation of notices, signs and signage in these languages. Currently all the buildings and facilities that make up its citizen service network, provincial addresses, offices, administrations and executive collection units,

located in regions with a co-official language, have an exterior and interior signage in bilingual format for proper identification on the part of the users of the services.

Websites and electronic Administration







National Social Security Institute (INSS)


The website of the Social Security www.seg.social.es has a multi-language version in terms of the contents that can be translated into the respective co-official languages of the State.






The total number of pages of the Web is 3237; of which 2688 may be subjected to translation (they represent 83.04% of the total). As of 12 December 2016, the percentage of pages translated into the 6 languages is 98.44% (2646 pages out of a total of 2688 that may be translated). As for the Social Security Electronic Headquarters, which has been in operation since May 2010 and with a new design since April 2016, it has a multi-language version with 100% of its contents translated.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, it must be specified that both the regulations and the applications of the website and the Electronic Office are not subject to translation for reasons, in the first case, of legal security and, in the second case, of a technical nature.

Regarding the publications and forms on the website, summaries of the situation are shown until 12 December 2016.

SUMMARY OF INSS MULTI-LINGUAL PUBLICATIONS ONLINE – 31 December 2016						
	CASTILIAN	CATALAN	BASQUE	GALICIAN	VALENCIAN	TOTAL
						
LIST OF SERVICES	2	2	2	2	2	10
PENSIONS GUIDE	2	1	1	1	1	6
HEALTHCARE ON EUROPEAN TRAVEL	2+1 	-	-	-	-	3
PERMANENT DISABILITY	1	1	1	1	1	5
RETIREMENT	1	1	1	-	1	4
DEATH & SURVIVAL	1	1	1	1	1	5
TEMPORARY DISABILITY	3	1	1	1	1	7
MATERNITY, PATERNITY, RISK PREGNANCY OR NATURAL LACTATION	4	1	1	1	1	8
FAMILY BENEFITS	1	1	1	1	1	5
STUDENTS' INSURANCE	1	-	-	-	-	1
CARING FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY CANCER OR OTHER SERIOUS ILLNESS	1	-	-	-	-	1
ACCIDENT AT WORK OR OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE BASIC GUIDE	1	1	1	1	1	5

OCCUPATIONAL DISABILITY FOR PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIANS ASSESSMENT GUIDE	1	-	-	-	-	1
PROFESSIONAL ASSESSMENT GUIDE	1	-	-	-	-	1
EQUALITY ACT	1	1	1	1	1	5
INSS OFFICES	1	-	-	-	-	1
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS BOOKLET	24	-	-	-	-	24
MULTILATERAL AGREEMENTS	1	-	-	-	-	1
"YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY"	3	3	3	3	3	15
BISS (Social Security Information Bulletin)	1	-	-	-	-	1
INDEX OF PROVISIONS	1	-	-	-	-	1
SOCIAL SECURITY GENERAL ACT	1	-	-	-	-	1
OTHER DOCUMENTATION/REPORTS	17	-	-	-	-	17
TOTAL PUBLISHED ONLINE	72+1 	14	14	13	14	128

SUMMARY OF INSS MULTI-LINGUAL MODELS/FORMS ONLINE – 31 December 2016						
	CASTILIAN	CATALAN	BASQUE	GALICIAN	VALENCIAN	TOTAL
						
NATIONAL BENEFITS						
RETIREMENT	10	6	3	3	3	25
PERMANENT DISABILITY	4	3	3	2	3	15
SURVIVAL	6	4	4	3	4	21
TEMPORARY DISABILITY	12	12	11	12	12	59
RISK DURING PREGNANCY OR BREASTFEEDING	9	3	2	3	3	20
MATERNITY	10	10	9	10	10	49
PATERNITY	8	8	7	8	8	39
CARING FOR CHILDREN AFFECTED BY CANCER OR OTHER SERIOUS ILLNESS	9	9	7	8	8	41
FAMILY BENEFITS	7	6	6	6	6	31
STUDENTS' INSURANCE	2	2	2	2	2	10
HEALTHCARE	3	-	-	-	-	3
REDUCTION OF LOW DISABILITY CLAIM COSTS	2	-	-	-	-	2
NATIONAL BENEFITS TOTAL	82	63	54	57	59	315
EUROPEAN COMMUNITY REGULATIONS						
RETIREMENT	1					
PERMANENT DISABILITY	1					
SURVIVAL	1					
TOTAL CORPORATE RELATIONS PENSIONS	3	-	-	-	-	3
BILATERAL AGREEMENTS						
RETIREMENT	1					
PERMANENT DISABILITY	1					
SURVIVAL	1					

TOTAL BILATERAL AGREEMENT PENSIONS	3	-	-	-	-	3
TOTAL PENSION REQUESTS	18	18	18	18	18	90
TOTALS (NATIONAL+ CORPORATE RATES+ BILATERAL AGREEMENTS + PENSIONS)	106	81	72	75	77	411

Marine Social Institute (ISM)

It offers, in the co-official languages, the fixed navigation menus, the titles and subtitles of the different sections that are offered in the main entry page, the titles of the different sections and, in general, all the navigation texts posted permanently on the page.

With regard to standardized forms printed for the request for the maritime boarding medical examination, the functionalities of the Sanimar@Prosa computer program have been extended, which integrates all the management of the mentioned medical examinations carried out in the Maritime Health Centres of the ISM, so that web queries can be enabled to give appointments in this way.

General Treasury of the Social Security (TGSS)

One of the main actions that have been carried out has been the enhancement of multilingualism within the framework of the website through the request, review and publication of the translations of the contents corresponding to the ordinary maintenance thereof and of the inclusion of new contents.

Additionally, during this period we have continued working with the purpose of carrying out the necessary activities to ensure full compliance with the triple "A" accessibility guidelines, after reaching the double "A" level of WAI accessibility in May 2010.

The Social Security website maintains a permanent and growing adaptation process, focused on the improvement of accessibility and the multilingual availability of its contents, since, on the one hand, the total number of pages on the web remains is permanently increasing and, additionally, some pages, after having been translated, have renewed their content as a result of extensions or legislative amendments, which required them to be redone in the corresponding language.

Progress, during the 2014-2016 period, was as follows:

Date	% translated	TRANSLATED PAGES			
		Catalan	Galician	Valencian	Basque
January-2014	93.24	2208	2208	2208	2208
December-2014	98.15	2439	2439	2439	2439
January-2015	97.95	2437	2437	2437	2437
December-2015	97.49	2526	2526	2526	2526
January-2016	97.50	2539	2539	2539	2539
December-2016	98.44	2646	2646	2646	2646

The website is dynamic and evolves in terms of its contents in such a way that translations thereof are only published when they are available in all languages: The data may vary depending on the time of requesting the information.

In the specific case of some of the most important sections, such as “Workers” and “Entrepreneurs” the percentage of pages that citizens can consult in co-official languages, as well as English and French, is 99%.

January 2014 to December 2016

	Castilian	Catalan	Galician	Basque	Valencian	English	French
Home Page	99.81	0.06	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.06	0.02
Workers	99.21	0.27	0.05	0.06	0.08	0.25	0.08
Entrepreneurs	98.71	0.34	0.12	0.13	0.15	0.41	0.16

In addition, the Electronic Social Security Headquarters, which began operations on 19 March 2010 and adapted its design to mobile devices in April 2016, allows citizens to carry out procedures and formalities online, has multilingual navigation, its version being published in the co-official languages, as well as in the English and French languages, in all its sections and categories, with the exception of the contents related to the Notice Board of the Social Security.

In spite of everything, there are still some pending areas of adaptation but it can be guaranteed that the General Treasury of the Social Security is continuing to work with great interest in its achievement.

Institutional campaigns

National Social Security Institute (INSS)

The personalized sheets and documents included in the usual information campaigns, such as the annual revaluation of pensions and the issuance of Personal Income Tax (IRPF) certificates to recipients of economic benefits, are published and distributed in a bilingual format, the latter implying compared to the total, the following percentages: 19.8% in Catalan, 8% in Galician, 10.1% in Valencian and 5.6% in Basque.

Marine Social Institute (ISM)

With regard to institutional campaigns and printed publications for the information of sea workers or pensioners of this Special Regime, 100% are carried out in the co-official languages.

Social Security General Treasury (TGSS)

Pursuant to Act 29/2005, the TGSS ensures the use of the co-official languages in the institutional advertising and communication campaigns it promotes. It sends messages to citizens in a bilingual edition, within the annual institutional campaign of work life reports and contribution bases, with the objective of providing all interested parties with personalized information on the situation and progress of their Social Security rights.

The number and percentage, on the total of the messages sent, in bilingual edition in the period 2014-2016, is shown below. For 2016, no data is available because this Campaign was not carried out.

- In 2014, a total of 11,811,047 messages were sent of which:
 - Catalan: 2,323,935 (19.68%)
 - Valencian: 1,168,895 (9.90%)
 - Galician: 659,275 (5.58%)
 - Basque: 625,716 (5.30%)

- In 2015, a total of 10,781,429 messages were sent of which:
 - Catalan: 2,105,284 (19.53%)
 - Valencian: 1,064,162 (9.87%)
 - Galician: 602,970 (5.59%)
 - Basque: 567,055 (5.26%)

Promotion of the use of co-official languages:

National Social Security Institute (INSS)

Within the powers of the Institute and, more specifically, in terms of internal communication, there are several provincial directorates that promote the publication, in their respective intranets, of content in the respective co-official language. Such is the case of Barcelona, Pontevedra, Girona, Lleida, Ourense, Lugo etc.

Additionally, it ought to be noted that, from 2014 to 2016, the INSS, in response to the request of the interested parties, has made and sent the pension recognition resolutions, in the respective co-official language, pursuant to the data shown in the following table:

Issuance & notification of Administrative Resolutions									
LANGUAGE	2014			2015			2016		
	PENSIONS	SUBSIDIES	TOTAL	PENSIONS	SUBSIDIES	TOTAL	PENSIONS	SUBSIDIES	TOTAL
CATALAN	36,044	7,732	43,776	35,928	7,519	43,447	36,415	6,574	42,989
BASQUE	401	57	458	418	78	496	375	59	434
GALICIAN	3,308	1,060	4,368	3,154	961	4,115	3,022	867	3,889
VALENCIAN	505	107	612	391	79	470	488	98	586
CASTILIAN	557,061	140,031	697,092	560,956	143,995	704,951	585,000	141,293	726,293

TOTAL	597,319	148,987	746,306	600,847	152,632	753,479	625,300	148,891	774,191
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Marine Social Institute (ISM)

In relation to the signage of buildings, in the provincial directorates and local offices of the ISM, in territories endowed with co-official language, most of them have posters and signposts in bilingual format, except for the provincial offices of Castellón, Valencia and Lugo, which they shall be modified shortly. As already mentioned in a previous section, the percentage of bilingualism in labelling is between 95% and 100%.

Social Security General Treasury (TGSS)

The TGSS encourages and promotes actions and improvement plans, facilitating the participation of interested agents and promoting publicity, through the mechanisms and necessary communication channels (intranet), of the initiatives and good practices that are presented and approved within the scope thereof. This is done with the objective of maintaining a system that encourages the participation of all public employees, encouraging the involvement of all staff in improvement actions that contribute to the dissemination of good practices carried out in areas within the scope thereof, to improve the management and quality of the service.

Collaboration with the Autonomous Communities

National Social Security Institute (INSS)

In the case of the INSS, and in order to guarantee the quality of the translations of certain documents and publications, said works are carried out in collaboration with the competent agencies and institutions of the respective regional governments.

Regardless of the above, the INSS attends to and resolves all the complaints and suggestions that, in language matters, the agencies of the Autonomous Communities responsible for ensuring the application and compliance with language policies in the area of the General State Administration may submit.

Likewise, the INSS has bilingual officials in the Public Attention and Information Centres in the territory of the Autonomous Communities that have their own language. That same availability exists within the Telephone Information and Assistance platforms.

Marine Social Institute (ISM)

Regarding the complaints motivated by the use or not of the co-official languages, there were 3 in total in this period, one per year.

Social Security General Treasury (TGSS)

The Social Security General Treasury favours the exchange of information on the status of the co-official languages in each Autonomous Community and establishes the

causes of complaints, claims and suggestions in this area. All this with the aim of collaborating in the completion of studies for the furtherance of co-official language status within the public administrations, thus ensuring that citizens can contact staff in the language of their choice and that the relevant information is provided to them in said language.

The complaints submitted in the second half 2013 and years 2014 to 2016 are shown below:

YEAR	COMPLAINTS SUBMITTED
2013 (second half)	9
2014	6
2015	4
2016	3

Since 2007, complaint forms have been available in all the co-official languages.

• Ministry of Health, Social Services & Equality

Within the scope of this Ministry, the information, prevention and awareness campaigns that have been carried out in co-official languages on gender-based violence or all the surveys conducted in the same languages by the Spanish Observatory on Drugs and Drug Addiction ought to be pointed out. Also, most of the Ministry's institutional campaigns during this period have been carried out in co-official languages.

A summary table of the institutional advertising campaigns carried out by said Ministry in application of Act 29/2005, of 29 December on Institutional Publicity and Institutional, is included below, pursuant to which institutional advertising campaigns shall use Castilian and, also, considering the regional scope of distribution, the co-official languages of the Autonomous Communities, respecting the autonomous legislation on the use of co-official languages.

2014 TAX YEAR CAMPAIGNS	Co-official languages
If your boyfriend scares you: Say so	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian
Cancer Screening	Castilian
AIDS is not a thing of the past. Keep it in mind.	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian
Win Health. Logo strategy health promotion	Castilian
No Hate (Campaign assigned by the Council of Europe)	Castilian

2014 TAX YEAR CAMPAIGNS	Co-official languages
World AIDS Day. AIDS is not a thing of the past. Keep it in mind	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian
GET ACTIVE Movement	Castilian

2015 TAX YEAR CAMPAIGNS	Co-official languages
If your boyfriend scares you: Say so (2)	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian
Integration is always the best answer	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian
For you to decide. Health Schools Network for the population	Castilian
Change their life and yours	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian
HIV and other STDs can also affect you.	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian
Discover the advantages of labelling	Castilian
If there is a way out of gender violence it is thanks to you: JOIN US	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian
Health also travels	Castilian
Against Trafficking with Women: Be Aware	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian
Without Stigmas: World AIDS Day	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian

2016 TAX YEAR CAMPAIGNS	Co-official languages
Information & awareness-raising campaigns against gender violence	Castilian Catalan Basque Galician Valencian

As a result of the above, of the 18 campaigns carried out between 2014 and 2016, 61% include the translation of their basic pieces to the different co-official languages. The remaining 39% correspond to campaigns with a low budget and without audio-visual material.

In addition, of these 18 campaigns, 7 have incorporated subtitling and 4, sign language.

	Campaigns	Co-official languages translation	Sub-titles	Sign language
2014	7	3	2	1
2015	10	7	4	3
2016	1	1	1	0
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>4</i>

• Ministry of Finance and the Civil Service

Within the scope of this Ministry, in addition to the translation of web pages, bilingual signage and labelling of its information and institutional campaigns, it is worth highlighting the activity of two agencies that report to the Ministry: INAP and MUFACE.

INAP (National Public Administration Institute)

The INAP is undoubtedly a key agency in the training of public employees in the official languages, and for this reason specific mention has been made of its work in this Report in the corresponding section dedicated to each language. The INAP is an autonomous agency attached to the Ministry of Finance and Public Function, through the Ministry of Public Function. Its origins go back to the Institute of Local Administration Studies (IEAL), created in 1940. INAP has collaborated for years in the promotion of learning and improvement of co-official languages by public employees of the General State Administration (AGE) assigned to the Autonomous Communities with more than one official language, including the personnel of the State Security Forces and Bodies.

Budget allocated by INAP to the teaching of co-official languages

Autonomous Communities	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017 (forecast)
GALICIA	€ 29,500	€ 0	€ 24,675	€ 23,100	€ 0	€ 0	€ 0	€ 0
VALENCIA	€ 96,478	€ 0	€ 27,450	€ 21,000	€ 21,000	€ 21,000	€ 0	€ 21,000
CATALONIA	€ 62,127	€ 0	€ 21,255	€ 24,239	€ 17,976	€ 22,276	€ 16,924	€ 25,000
BALEARIC ISLANDS	€ 65,016	€ 60,000	€ 15,861	€ 5,450	€ 5,130	€ 4,329	€ 1,122	€ 6,000
BASQUE COUNTRY	€ 29,116	€ 38,516	€ 14,383	€ 25,751	€ 22,852	€ 29,427	€ 22,510	€ 30,000
NAVARRRE	€ 14,525	€ 14,513	€ 9,615	€ 9,633	€ 8,661	€ 0	€ 0,00	€ 10,000
TOTALS	€ 296,762	€ 113,029	€ 113,240	€ 109,174	€ 75,619	€ 77,031	€ 40,556	€ 112,000

General Mutual Society of State Civil Servants (MUFACE)

MUFACE is the public agency of the General State Administration that manages the Special Social Security Regime for Civil Servants of the State in relation to administrative mutualism. As such, its mission is to provide adequate social and health protection to mutualists, pursuant to its own model of action.

The administrative structure of MUFACE reflects a centralized scheme, with Central Services and Peripheral Services of provincial scope, pursuant to the distribution of the contingent protected throughout Spain. In this way, this agency has provincial services in all Spanish provinces, including those with more than one official language.

This agency has adopted the following measures during the reference period in the sphere of languages

- The MUFACE website has been translated into the following co-official languages: Catalan, Galician and Basque. The PLATA Automatic Translation Platform of the Digital Administration Secretariat is used for this purpose (<https://administracionelectronica.gob.es/ctt/plata>) based on open source translation engines (Moses, Apertium) that allows automatic translation without human revision from web portals to the co-official languages and to English, French or Portuguese from texts in Castilian.
- MUFACE's print publications (leaflets, brochures, and posters) are issued in the following languages: Castilian, Catalan, Galician, Valencian and Basque, thus guaranteeing their availability in the regions in which the co-official languages are used.
- In Provincial Offices located in provinces in which some of the co-official languages are spoken, compliance with Article 10 of the Charter is ensured, guaranteeing attention to citizens in their territory's co-official language of their choice.

- **Ministry of the Interior**

Within the scope of this Ministry, the following advances ought to be highlighted:

- The Ministry's web portal, whose latest version was launched in 2013, offers users the possibility of browsing in the different co-official languages. Likewise, the translation of other websites for which the Ministry is responsible and apps ("Alertcops") has been carried out.
- The progress in translations in the field of electoral processes is noteworthy: the number of bilingual forms available to the citizen, the printed institutional material (such as the manual for members of the polling stations, the explanatory guide used in the procedure of accessible voting for people with visual impairment or signage of electoral venues and polling stations) has grown gradually:

	PERCENTAGE OF BILINGUAL LEAFLETS	PERCENTAGE OF BILINGUAL MATERIAL	PERCENTAGE OF BILINGUAL POSTERS
2014 EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT ELECTIONS	38.20%	40.03%	33.01%
2015 GENERAL ELECTIONS	35.06%	38.30%	56.20%
2015 LOCAL ELECTIONS	40.69%	37.98%	43.28%
2016 GENERAL ELECTIONS	34.44%	38.80%	61.77%

- **Ministry of Infrastructure**

Within the scope of this Ministry, the following information ought to be highlighted:

Directorate-General of the National Geographic Institute

The National Geographic Information Centre (CNIG) reports to this General Directorate. This Centre has been using the co-official languages in the databases it produces, in the cartography it produces and distributes and, in the dissemination that it carries out through the Internet, especially through the portals and spatial data infrastructure nodes. A notable case is the Spatial Data Infrastructure Portal of Spain,

which, in addition to offering versions in the official languages, offers access to data sets and place name services from different organizations at the national, regional and local levels.

RENFE

This agency interacts with its clients in Castilian and in the co-official autonomous languages in the area of each Autonomous Community with its own language and in the trains with origin or destination in said Communities. In general, the actions of Renfe Viajeros, in reference to the co-official languages, is as follows:

- On board the trains: the contract with the provider obliges the crew to know the autonomous languages of the territories through which the train circulates. The use of the regional languages is regulated in the Public Address Manual. The information is personal. Likewise, the posters, brochures or menu cards are prepared in Castilian and in the co-official language corresponding to the route.
- On land: the contract with the providers obliges the staff to know the regional languages.
- After Sales Service: as a general rule, it is done in the language in which the complaint was received.

The Public Address Manual is distributed to the personnel who carry out this task and, in addition, management courses are taught. In Section 5.2, "Choosing the language in which the messages shall be issued", explains what the procedure is, pursuant to current provisions.

The languages in which the messages must be made are the following:

- Castilian: in all cases and in all messages;
- Co-official languages: limited to the scope of the corresponding Autonomous Community and, in cases that are specifically regulated, to those which, without being so in origin, the final destination of the train is a Community with its own language.

The name of the stop stations shall be given according to the official place names of each Autonomous Community.

Port Authorities

Regarding these Authorities, the following is to be reported:

- Most have the contents of their web fully translated, as well as bilingual electronic site;
- The Port Authority of Barcelona has had a language service since 1997 and in that same year a process of language normalization was initiated.
- In 2015, the Port Authority of Bilbao obtained the "Bikain de plata" (certificate issued by the Basque Government that certifies a certain degree of use, presence and management of the Basque language by the organization). 100% of the standard forms of the Port Authority of Bilbao are in a bilingual version; this percentage is 95% in the case of the Port Authority of Pasaia (5% more than in the previous Report).
- Knowledge of the co-official language is generally valued as merit in the provision of posts, and for certain positions it is a requirement.

• **Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation**

Instituto Cervantes

The training and external dissemination carried out by Instituto Cervantes of the different Spanish languages is of particular importance. Indeed, a specific reference (“Article 8 of the Charter, Education”) has been included on the furtherance of each language in this Report.

Use of the co-official languages with the institutions of the European Union

The Kingdom of Spain is a signatory to six Agreements that regulate the use of co-official languages other than Castilian in the Institutions and Organizations of the European Union.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation carries out, through the REPER, the processing of applications for the use of co-official languages by the regional representatives in the Council of Ministers and the Committee of the Regions. It also manages the translation procedures for Written Communications of citizens in the Council, the Commission, the Committee of the Regions and the Economic and Social Committee.

The use of these interventions, during the 2014-2016 period, is summarized below.

- Use of co-official languages other than Castilian in sessions of the Council of Ministers of the European Union:

2014	BASQUE	CATALAN	GALICIAN	VALENCIAN	BAL	NAV
Agriculture Council 17/18 February 2014				X		
Competitiveness Council 20/21 February 2014	X					
Education, Culture, Youth & Sports Council 24 February 2014		X				
Agriculture Council 24/25 March 2014				X		
Education, Culture, Youth & Sports Council 20/21 May 2014		X				
Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council 11 December 2014	X					
Education & Youth Council 12 December 2014	X					
2015	BASQUE	CATALAN	GALICIAN	VALENCIAN	BAL	NAV
Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs 9 March 2015		X				
Education & Youth Council 28/19 May 2015		X		X		
Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs 18 June 2015		X				
Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs 5 October 2015			X			
Education, Culture, Youth & Sports Council 23/24 November 2015			X		X	
Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council 7 December 2015			X			
Environment Council 16 December 2015						X
2016	BASQUE	CATALAN	GALICIAN	VALENCIAN	BAL	NAV
Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs 17 June 2016				X		
Environment Council 17 October 2016					X	
Education, Culture, Youth & Sports 21/22 November 2016	X					
Environment Council 19 December 2016					X	

- Use of co-official languages other than Castilian in sessions of the Committee of the Regions:

2014	BASQUE	CATALAN	GALICIAN	VALENCIAN
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting - 30/31 January 2014	x	x	x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting - 2/3 April 2014	x		x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting - 25/26 June 2014	x		x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting - 7/8 October 2014	x	x	x	x

Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting – 3/4 December 2014	x	x	x	x
2015	BASQUE	CATALAN	GALICIAN	VALENCIAN
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 12/13 February 2015	x	x	x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 16/17 April 2015		x	x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 3/4 June 2015	x	x	x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 8/9 July 2015	x	x	x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 13/14 October 2015	x	x	x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 3/4 December 2015	x	x	x	x
2016	BASQUE	CATALAN	GALICIAN	VALENCIAN
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 10/11 February 2016	x		x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 7/8 April 2016	x	x	x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 15/16 June 2016	x	x	x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 11/12 October 2016	x	x	x	x
Committee of the Regions/Plenary Meeting 7/8 December 2016	x	x	x	x

- **Ministry of Justice**

Information on new developments has been included in the corresponding section of each language (“Article 9 of the Charter, Justice”).

- **Ministry of the Presidency and for Territorial Administrations**

Within the scope of this Ministry, the following information ought to be highlighted:

State Agency Official State Bulletin (BOE)

- Publication of laws in co-official languages

Pursuant to its Statute, the main function of the BOE State Agency (AEBOE) is the electronic publication of the official newspaper “Official State Gazette”.

The BOE is published in Castilian, and this publication results in the full effectiveness of laws pursuant to the provisions of the Preliminary Title of the Civil Code. However, pursuant to *Royal Decree 489/1997, of 14 April, on the publication of State Laws in the co-official languages of the Autonomous Communities*, within the framework of the agreements signed for this purpose, Acts, Royal Decree-Laws and the Royal Legislative Decrees may also be published in the other official languages of the different Autonomous Communities.

To implement this provision, since 1997 several Agreements have been signed with the different Autonomous Communities, in which the publication in the corresponding co-official language is established by means of a special supplement of the BOE.

In all cases, the translation is carried out by the Autonomous Community and financed 50% by the State, except in the case of the Basque Country, which receives 60% financing.

As regards the number of provisions and pages published for each co-official language, these are the following:

Language	2014		2015		2016	
	No. of provisions	No. of pages	No. of provisions	No. of pages	No. of provisions	No. of pages
Catalan	310	10,335	365	9,260.25	136	3,430.75
Galician	305	8,032.5	368	9,274.25	135	33,426.75
Valencian	75	2,586.75	107	4,215	14	111.5

Basque	75	2,586.75	108	4,215.25	14	111.5
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It is worth highlighting the reduction in the number of provisions and pages translated in 2016, as a result of the dissolution of the Cortes and the holding of general elections that took place at the end of 2015 and in 2016.

- The Single Edictal Notice Board (TEU)

Royal Decree 385/2015, of 22 May, adapted the organization of the “Official State Gazette” pursuant to the provisions of *Act 15/2014, of 16 September, on the rationalization of the Public Sector and other administrative reform measures*, to create a **Single Edictal Notice Board (TEU)**, entailing the publication of notification announcements made by all Administrations in a new “Notifications Supplement” of the BOE, of an independent nature.

Given the special content of the notifications supplement, the aforesaid Royal Decree 385/2015 established that notification notices, in addition to in Castilian, may also be published in the co-official language when the Administration involved in the notification forwards the corresponding translation, together with the version in Castilian.

The publication of notifications in bilingual format, both in Castilian and in the co-official language, is the option most frequently chosen by the Administrations that have a co-official language, whether they are regional or local, when inserting their notification announcements in the TEU.

- The updated text of the Constitution available in the co-official languages

Within its editorial collection of “Electronic codes”, the AEBOE published in 2016 a code of the Spanish Constitution, with the updated text of the latter, both in Castilian and in the co-official languages.

This code is available for free for download in html, pdf and e-pub format on the AEBOE website, at http://www.boe.es/legislacion/codigos/codigo.php?id=151_Constitucion_Espanola&modo=1

This code has had more than 60,000 downloads since becoming available.

It must be noted that it can be purchased on paper through the print-on-demand system characteristic of the collection of electronic codes.

- Web page

The website of the Agency is translated in the first level into the co-official languages.

In addition, in the case of the pages corresponding to the supplements in co-official languages, the translation includes the pages of the second level of the calendar as well as the search menus, and the list of results, it being possible to retrieve information by filling in the title and text fields in the co-official language.

Peripheral Services of the General State Administration

Language training for staff assigned to Communities with more than one official language:

The Order of 20 July 1990, by which rules are issued for the provision of certain posts of officials in the Peripheral State Administration in relation to knowledge of the official languages of the Autonomous Communities, establishes that the provision of posts by officials in the peripheral administration in the Basque Country, Catalonia, Galicia, Valencia, Navarre and the Balearic Islands, shall take into account knowledge of the official language of each Autonomous Community in the following posts: jobs whose content is directly related to information to the public, reception and registration of documents, management activities with significant degrees of proximity to the public and frequency in relationships and activities for which the knowledge of the language is a significant factor.

In this regard, it establishes that the calls for tenders for the provision of the aforesaid posts must establish knowledge of the official language in terms of a specific merit. This has been complied with and, indeed, has been extended to cover all posts that are convened in the relevant Autonomous Communities.

KNOWLEDGE OF THE CO-OFFICIAL LANGUAGE OF PUBLIC EMPLOYEES OF THE GENERAL STATE ADMINISTRATION:

<i>AUTONOMOUS COMMUNITIES</i>	<i>% PUBLIC EMPLOYEES THAT KNOW THE CO-OFFICIAL LANGUAGE</i>	
	<i>GOVERNMENT DELEGATION</i>	<i>REST of the GENERAL STATE ADMINISTRATION</i>
<i>CATALONIA</i>	<i>95 %</i>	<i>The exact data is not available in the rest of the General State Administration, but it is considered, given the characteristics of the employees, that the data can be extrapolated.</i>
<i>VALENCIA</i>	<i>90 %</i>	
<i>BALEARIC ISLANDS</i>	<i>32 %</i>	
<i>GALICIA</i>	<i>96 %</i>	
<i>NAVARRRE</i>	<i>1.26 %</i>	
<i>BASQUE COUNTRY</i>	<i>14 %</i>	

More detailed information on the data of each Delegation and Sub-Delegation of the Government is included in the specific section of each co-official language ("Article 10 of the Charter, Administrative Authorities and Public Services").

- State Secretariat for Culture (Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport)

Within the scope of this State Secretariat, the following information ought to be highlighted:

- Grants for the publishing of books

In 2012, the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport integrated the former grants for translation between Spain's official languages, with a budget allocation in 2011 of € 50,000, into the general grants call for the publication of books, with a budget allocation in 2012 of €2,025,000. In order to promote cultural communication among Autonomous Communities, as of 2012, the call establishes that 5 points are automatically awarded to publishing projects that involve translation between Castilian and the co-official language of an Autonomous Community, or translation between co-official languages.

- Grants for translation

Translations of works written in co-official languages into foreign languages are financed. These grants are on a competitive basis and their aim is to encourage the translation and publication into foreign languages of literary and scientific works that, regardless of the author's nationality, have outstanding importance from the cultural point of view. These grants for translation have proven to be an extremely effective stimulus for the international distribution of the cultural heritage written originally in Castilian or in one of the co-official languages of the Autonomous Communities.

- Other assistance

There are other lines of assistance that promote co-official languages together with Castilian:

. Grants for companies and non-profit institutions editors of **culture magazines** written in Castilian and any Spanish co-official language.

. Assistance for the **Promotion of Reading and of Spanish Literature**: They also include projects that are carried out in languages other than Castilian or whose purpose is literature in co-official languages.

. **María Moliner Campaign**: the winning libraries of this contest for reading promotion projects may request that the batch of books that corresponds to them include books in the co-official language of their interest.

- Other actions:

. **International book fairs** in which the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport of Spain is present: sending books in all the co-official languages for exhibition at the Stand of Spain.

. Financing of the presence of **Spanish authors** who write in any of the co-official languages, in various national forums (secondary schools, universities, libraries, conferences, conferences, literary festivals, etc.).

. Financing the presence of **Spanish authors** who write in any of the co-official languages, in different international forums (book fairs, congresses, festivals, etc.)

III. NON-OFFICIAL REGIONAL OR MINORITY LANGUAGES

ASTURIAN AND GALICIAN-ASTURIAN IN ASTURIAS

In Asturias, three languages are spoken: Castilian is the official language, understood and spoken by practically all of the population; Asturian or the Asturian language, which is spoken in most of the Principality; and Galician-Asturian, spoken in the western area of Asturias, between the Navia and Eo rivers.

Data on the number of speakers:

According to the latest (2016) population census, the total population of Asturias is 1,042,608. If we subtract the population that lives in the territory where Galician-Asturian is spoken, the final figure is 1,010,578. The latest survey on the use of Asturian, the *2nd Social and Language Study of Asturias (2002)*, noted that about half of the respondents (49%) knew how to speak Asturian, which would give a figure higher than 500,000 speakers. From the questions related to the language uses in different everyday situations, it can be deduced that the percentage of frequent Asturian speakers is lower: it is 38.7% in certain local and family situations. The projection on the current population data would yield a figure of about 390,000 speakers.

As for Galician-Asturian, the language spoken in the westernmost area of Asturias, between the Navia and Eo rivers, it receives that name in the Asturian legislation and is the one used in the language policy implemented by the Asturian Government. Other names such as *fala* or *eonaviego* are also used in Asturias, with varying degrees of acceptance and sometimes depending on the formality of the context of use.

The figures that can be offered on the number of speakers of Galician-Asturian are estimates and are based on projections of the percentages obtained in social and language surveys. According to the latest population census, of 2016, 32,130 people live in the territory where this language is spoken. According to data from the 2002 census, this figure was 40,438, so we can see the demographic decline that is occurring in the area, both through the aging of the population and by emigration to other places.

The latest survey carried out, the *2nd Social and Language Study of Asturias (2002)*, pointed out that about 72% of the respondents knew how to speak Galician-Asturian. The projection on the current population data would yield a figure of about 23,000 speakers. These data are nuanced if we look at the questions related to language habits in different situations, from which the figure of 59.7% is obtained, adding up those who say use Galician-Asturian frequently and those who say they use Galician-Asturian and Castilian indistinctly. In this case, the projection of habitual speakers to the total population of the area would be about 390,000 speakers.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARTICLES OF THE CHARTER

Article 7 – Objectives and principles

Paragraph 1

Article 7 – Objectives and principles

1 In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:

a the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;

b the respect of the geographical area of each regional or minority language in order to ensure that existing or new administrative divisions do not constitute an obstacle to the promotion of the regional or minority language in question;

c the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;

The Principality of Asturias is a region characterized by a series of features of its own cultural identity. Noteworthy among these features is an own language reality that requires the formulation of specific policies. For this purpose, it has a legal and regulatory framework that allows positive actions to be taken and to intensify language protection, promotion and normalization actions in multiple aspects of Asturian social and cultural life.

This set of legal provisions permits advancing in the social normalization of the Asturian and Galician-Asturian language, and they serve to consolidate what has been built up to the present and, at the same time, undertake coordinated and planned actions aimed at the social normalization of the Asturian and Galician-Asturian language, to which we shall refer later. The main normative references of general scope are the Statute of Autonomy of the Principality of Asturias, approved by Organic Law 7/1981, of 30 December (Official State Gazette No. 9, of 11 January 1982) and Act 1 / 1998, of 23 March, on the Use and Promotion of Bable / Asturian.

The legal framework for the protection of Asturian and Galician-Asturian is reflected in these two fundamental provisions. On the one hand, the Statute of Autonomy, which in Article 4 states: *“Bable shall enjoy protection. Its use, dissemination in the media and teaching shall be promoted, respecting in all cases local variants and the voluntary nature of its learning. An Act of the Principality shall regulate the protection, use and promotion of Bable.”*

Additionally, Act 1/1998, of 23 March, on the Use and Promotion of Bable / Asturian, sets forth in Chapter 1, Article 1, that *“Bable / Asturian, as the traditional language of Asturias, shall enjoy protection. The Principality of Asturias shall promote its use, dissemination and teaching.”*

Administration and place names

Since the approval in 1998 of the Act on the Use and Promotion of Asturian, any citizen can address the Administration in Asturian or Galician-Asturian. Regarding place names, the Asturian Government’s officialization process of the traditional forms has already reached 53 of the 78 Asturian municipalities, while another 25 are in process.

The municipal offices of the Language Normalization Services have also been extended and consolidated.

d the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;

The Government of the Principality of Asturias, with the aim of consolidating the respect and tolerance in the sphere of languages that already exists among the Asturian citizens in language matters in the economic and social life of Asturias, has implemented a set of measures aimed at expanding and facilitating opportunities for social use of Asturian and Galician-Asturian, guaranteeing the protection and promotion thereof as collective heritage.

▪ **CAMPAIGN FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE ASTURIAN LANGUAGE IN THE XIXON INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**

In 2015 and 2016, a campaign was carried out to increase the presence of the Asturian language at the Xixon International Film Festival (FICXixon). Within the framework of this action, advertisements and inserts were put into the Festival booklet and newspaper, as well as banners on the event website.

▪ **CAMPAIGN FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE ASTURIAN LANGUAGE IN SPORTS ENTITIES**

In 2015, the Asturian Government carried out a twenty-day campaign to promote the Asturian language in sports entities. The three Asturian football teams of the three higher categories were involved covering the First Division, Second Division and Second Division B. Another three Asturian teams also participated, including basketball, roller hockey and women's football. The campaign used banners and messages on their websites and social networks. Coinciding with matches, ads were made with the slogan *Col Asturianu, xugamos nel mesmu equipu* ("With Asturian, we are playing on the same team"), canvases were placed and the teams posed with the campaign poster and wearing topical t-shirts.

▪ **CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE CULTURAL CHRISTMAS SHOPPING IN THE ASTURIAN LANGUAGE**

In 2016, a campaign was carried out to encourage citizens to include cultural products in the Asturian language among their Christmas gifts. The campaign focused on music and literature in the Asturian language encouraging the purchase of CDs and books in Asturian. The different materials designed for the campaign were shown in digital newspapers, institutional websites and social networks, and radio spots were broadcast on general radio and specialist radio stations between from 20 to 30 December. The campaign used slogans such as: *Regala n'asturianu* ("Make a gift in Asturian"), *A la xente que quies regála-yos a cachín d'Asturies* ("Give those you love a bit of Asturias") or *¡Qué bon regalu for these Navidaes!* ("What a good gift for this Christmas!").

Social normalization

Grant lines continue to be made available for social groups and private initiatives that use these languages, collaborating so that this production is a reality that reaches society. With these measures, which are referred to in detail later, it is possible to reinforce the media, publishers and recording companies.

f the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;

More than 22,000 students voluntarily study the subject "Asturian Language and Literature". The subject is a compulsory offer in all centres of the Principality of Asturias

and is taught in almost all State schools. In private schools receiving State grants, the percentages of centres that teach it and the students who choose it increase year by year.

The Government of the Principality of Asturias works to guarantee, under the best conditions, the right to be taught the Asturian language. Information is provided below on the actions undertaken in this field, together with data that illustrate the situation of the teaching of the Asturian language in the period 2014-2016.

From primary education to secondary school, the Government of Asturias has provided an academic and standardised solution to the teaching of the Asturian by publishing decrees on the curriculum of the subject at all educational stages.

▪ CHANGE OF THE NATIONAL EDUCATION ACT. CONSEQUENCES OF THE LOMCE FOR THE ASTURIAN LANGUAGE.

In late 2013, a new educational framework was established throughout Spain, with the entry into force of Organic Law 8/2013, of 9 December for the Improvement of Educational Quality (Spanish acronym: LOMCE), amending Organic Law 2 / 2006, of 3 May, on Education. In this Act, and at the request of the Department of Education, Culture and Sport of the Principality of Asturias, (for the first time in a national education Law) the mention of non-official languages that enjoy legal protection, as is the case of the Asturian language, was included. Thus, Additional Provision Thirty-eight, Section Six of the aforesaid Law, sets forth that: *"Those Autonomous Communities in which there are non-official languages that enjoy legal protection shall offer them, where appropriate, within the block of regionally configured free elective subjects, in the terms determined by the implementing regulations thereof."*

Also, the amendment of the Education Law involved the amendment of the Royal Decrees on Primary Education and Secondary Education that regulate the basic syllabuses of both stages, namely, Royal Decree 126/2014, of 28 February, establishing the basic syllabus for Primary Education, and Royal Decree 1105/2014, of 26 December, establishing the basic curriculum of Compulsory Secondary Education and of Post-Compulsory Secondary Education. These Royal Decrees are detailed in decrees specifying the syllabuses for each one of the different educational stages, changing their name to *"Asturian Language and Literature"*.

▪ DISTRIBUTION OF BIBLIOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL TO EDUCATIONAL CENTRES

▪

Throughout the 2014-2016 period, a considerable number of readers, dictionaries, magazines, etc. were periodically sent to schools in order to create a collection of Asturian Language bibliographic material at each school, thus favouring the integration of the library in the school.

In addition, teacher training is provided by the University of Oviedo, incorporating regulated studies of Asturian Language: a minor in Philology, a mention in Teaching Studies and a specialty in the Master's degree in Teacher Training for Secondary Schools and Vocational Training.

▪ STAFF

During the reporting period, the Department of Education and Culture has been teaching staff who teach the subject Asturian Language and Literature in public education, according to the following data:

ACADEMIC YEAR	PRIMARY	SECONDARY
2013/2014	184	71
2014/2015	188	72
2015/2016	191	75

To these teachers of the subject, it would be necessary to add in each school year 60 teachers who teach, within their schedule, some hours of Asturian Language and Literature.

Additionally, regarding the educational sphere of Galician-Asturian, the budgets for the period 2014-2016 are presented below. These are calculated based on the teaching staff and the presence of Galician-Asturian as a subject in Primary Education and Secondary Education in public schools, there being no grant-receiving private centres that taught the subject during the three academic years the period covers:

Academic year 2013/2014

	PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Primary Education	€219,881.67
Secondary Education	€44,528.17
TOTAL	€264,409.84

Academic year 2014/2015

	PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Primary Education	€241,870.48
Secondary Education	€44,528.17
TOTAL	€286,398.65

Academic year 2015/2016

	PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Primary Education	€241,870.48
Secondary Education	€59,370.89
TOTAL	€301,241.37

- STAFF.

During the period reported, the Department of Education and Culture had the following teaching staff that taught Galician-Asturian:

ACADEMIC YEAR	PRIMARY	SECONDARY
2013/2014	10	3
2014/2015	11	3
2015/2016	11	4

h the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;

Since 2003, the University of Oviedo has had a specific Research Group dedicated to studies of Asturian Philology (the *Seminariu de Filoloxía Asturiana*), the first and only group of this kind existing at the University of Oviedo throughout its history.

- COORDINATION AND COMMISSIONING OF THE “GRUPU DE TRABAYU DEL MARCU COMÚN EUROPEU DE REFERENCIA DE LES LLINGÜES”.

In 2016, this group was set up, made up of technical experts. It is responsible for drafting the first version of the Decree that establishes Asturian language levels in accordance with the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.

- UNIVERSITY OF OVIEDO - SEMINARIU DE FILOLOXÍA ASTURIANA.

The ETLÉN Project (*Study of Language Transition in the Eo-Navia Zone*) is a dialectology research project on the border between the language domains of Galician-Portuguese and Asturian, in the westernmost area of Asturias, where Galician-Asturian is spoken. The ETLÉN Project is *dialectographic*, showing dialectal data; *horiometric*, measuring language boundaries; and *dialectometric*, measuring the dialectal diversity of the space studied.

This research, directed by professor Ramón d'Andrés Díaz, was carried out by a team that is part of the Asturian Philology Seminar of the University of Oviedo. The project—surveys in forty points of the zone and the creation of the necessary databases—received, in addition to other assistance, grants from the Government of the Principality of Asturias. Currently work is being done on publishing the results in the form of atlases.

i the promotion of appropriate forms of transnational exchanges, in the areas covered by this Charter, for regional or minority languages used identically or similarly in two or more States.

- PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERCOLL FESTIVAL OF LORIENT.

In 2014-2016, an agreement between the Administration of the Principality of Asturias and the Interceltic Festival of Lorient was in force, a framework of collaboration for the dissemination of art, culture and the Asturian language. During this period, an Asturian delegation formed by Asturian musical and artistic representatives participated in this important festival.

The objective of promoting Asturian music and music in Asturian beyond the borders of Asturias was thus fulfilled, promoting and organizing events that dignify the use of the Asturian language, as a vehicle for cultural expression, as well as the production and dissemination of cultural products in the indigenous language, also promoting in the musical sphere in a context as prestigious and multitudinous as Lorient.

- ORGANIZATION OF AN ASTURIAN LANGUAGE COURSE FOR ASTURIAN COMMUNITIES ABROAD.

In 2014, a basic Asturian language course was organized for Asturian communities abroad. A total of 107 people from 11 countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Germany, Ireland, Mexico, Spain, the United States, and Uruguay) enrolled in the course: 60 hours of distance teaching with an essentially practical orientation.

Paragraph 2

The Parties undertake to eliminate, if they have not yet done so, any unjustified distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference relating to the use of a regional or minority language and intended to discourage or endanger the maintenance or development of it. The adoption of special measures in favour of regional or minority languages aimed at promoting equality between the users of these languages and the rest of the population or which take due account of their specific conditions is not considered to be an act of discrimination against the users of more widely-used languages.

In May 2004, the Advisory Board on Place Names of the Principality of Asturias (XAT) was set up, defined in Decree 38/2002, of 4 April, which regulates it, as “an advisory and counselling body to the Administration of the Principality of Asturias for the fulfilment of the tasks entrusted to research and standardise Asturian place names.”

In the period 2014-2016:

- Fourteen regular meetings of the Advisory Board on Place Names were held;
- The corresponding place names files of 5 municipalities were opened, namely: Oviedo, Candamo, Cudillero, Soto del Barco and Las Regueras.
- Decree 30/2005, of 23 January, modified by which the official place names of the Carreño Council are determined was amended (Official Gazette of the Principality of Asturias of 20-2-2014);
- The place names of the municipalities of Santo Adriano (Official Gazette of the Principality of Asturias of 20-8-2014) and Valdés (Official Gazette of the Principality of Asturias of 18-8-2014) were approved.

Paragraph 3

The Parties undertake to promote, by appropriate measures, mutual understanding between all the language groups of the country and in particular the inclusion of respect, understanding and tolerance in relation to regional or minority languages among the objectives of education and training provided within their countries and encouragement of the mass media to pursue the same objective.

In the Autonomous Community of the Principality of Asturias, the competent body in terms of language policy is the Department of Education and Culture.

In addition, it is worth highlighting:

- LANGUAGE NORMALIZATION SERVICES IN THE MUNICIPAL AREA.

Within the framework of its policy of helping municipalities, the Government of the Principality of Asturias economically supports the start-up and operation of the Language Normalization Services (LNS, (Spanish acronym: SNL)) at the municipal level.

Providing local entities with Language Normalization Services allows the carrying out of a wide range of activities that contribute to the social dissemination of the Asturian language while respecting the principles of freedom and voluntariness in its use by citizens. Therefore, in the years 2014-2016, this line of work has continued, extending and consolidating these Services:

- Number of SNL during the referred period: 12
- Number of municipalities served by these Services: 18
- Population served by these Services: 605,774 inhabitants
- Budget that the Government of the Principality allocated to its operation: €390,520.

STAFF TRAINING

The training of staff at the service of the Administration of the Principality is the responsibility of the Adolfo Posada Public Administration Institute, a decentralized agency with the rank of Directorate-General which, for more than twenty years, has included training courses in the Asturian language for officials of the Administration of the Principality of Asturias.

During the period 2014-2016, the aforesaid Institute has offered the carrying out of Asturian courses at two levels (Asturian Language I and Asturian Language II), which were available permanently in the self-training platform `aul@bierta` for all public officials interested. In addition, between 24 and 27 March 2014, the course “Manual for specialized use of Asturian: scientific, technical, dissemination and informational texts” was held.

Additionally, within the framework of the line of training in specific skills promoted by said Institute, the Directorate-General of Language Planning and Normalization promoted in the period 2014-2016 the following training actions for technical staff of the Directorate-General of Language Planning and Normalization and for language normalization experts of local entities:

- Reflective practice “Practical legal applications of language normalization”, 10 hours.
- Workshop “Legal framework of language normalization”, 5 hours.
- Working group “Administrative Language II”, 20 hours.

▪ RADIO AND TELEVISION OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF ASTURIAS

One of the principles of the Act that regulates the operation of the Public Television Network of the Principality of Asturias, is “the promotion of education and culture, particularly Asturian, with special protection of Bable/Asturian and Galician/Asturian, through promotion of its use and dissemination”.

In addition, during the Week of the Asturian Letters, news programmes included news in Asturian.

LITERARY AWARDS

In the period 2014-2016, several literary awards were given annually for at consolidating, enhancing and giving prestige to the Asturian language and culture:

- *“Xosefa Xovellanos” Award for novel writing: an award for which novels written in the Asturian language may be submitted presented with a minimum of seventy-five double-spaced pages. The works, with free theme, genre and structure, must be unpublished and may not have received an award in other contests.*

- "Xuan María Acebal" Poetry Award: for unpublished poems written in the Asturian language with a minimum of five hundred verses.
- "Máximo Fuertes Acevedo" non-fiction Award: non-fiction works in Asturian language may be submitted with a minimum extension of fifty pages printed in double space. The works, with free theme, genre and structure, have to meet the characteristics of the essay genre with a wide scope and may not have received an award in other contests.
- "María Josefa Canellada" Award for Children's and Young People's Literature: an award open to children's or young people's literature—novels, compilations of short stories, poems or plays—written in the Asturian language and with a minimum extension of two hundred and fifty verses for poetry and thirty pages printed in double space for the other genres.
- "Alfonso Iglesias" Award for Comics: for works, free in terms of style, treatment and theme, involving a single story or a set of stories, and with a minimum extension of fifty pages.

Paragraph 4

In determining their policy with regard to regional or minority languages, the Parties shall take into consideration the needs and wishes expressed by the groups which use such languages. They are encouraged to establish bodies, if necessary, for the purpose of advising the authorities on all matters pertaining to regional or minority languages.

▪ ACADEMY OF THE ASTURIAN LANGUAGE

The *Academia de la Llingua Asturiana* (Academy of the Asturian Language) is an institution of the Principality of Asturias that was created in 1980 by the Decree of the Regional Council of Asturias 33/1980, of 15 December. Its Statutes were approved by the same body by Decree 9/1981, modified by a Governing Council Decision, adopted at its meeting of 12 April 1995.

The Academy of the Asturian Language resolved to create in 1996 the Language Secretariat of the Navia-Eo to fulfil the mandate of Article 1.k of its Statutes, in which it states that "For all purposes, the Asturian Language Academy shall promote and protect the Galician-Asturian or Asturian- Galician language variant ».

The projects, activities and lines of work of this organization during the 2014-2016 period are:

- *Asturian University of Branu (UABRA)*. This is a joint project of the Academy of the Asturian Language, the University of Oviedo and the City Council of Cangas del Narcea. The average number of courses offered is seven, in addition to complementing them with literary and musical events, workshops, exhibitions, etc. Three editions with a duration of two weeks each.
- Holding of the *Day of Asturian Letters*. Editions 2014, 2015 and 2016.
- Holding of the *International Study Days*. Editions XXXIII (2014); XXXIV (2015) and XXXV (2016). Forum of conferences and lectures on language, literature, cultural topics, etc. in the Asturian-Leonese language sphere or other similar spheres. Four days each edition.
- Collaboration agreement with the International Society of Bioethics (Spanish acronym: SIBI) (2014). It includes agreements on translation and publishing of texts, as well as the participation of the Academy in the Annual Cycle of Conferences of the SIBI. The first result of this collaboration is the Asturian translation of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and the Dignity of Human Beings in relation to the applications of Biology and Medicine (Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine), internationally known as the Asturias Convention of Bioethics, the foundational document of the SIBI.

- Collaboration agreement with the Miranda de Douro City Council and the Mirandese Language and Culture Association (2015). This agreement has the common objective of working together for the study, learning and dissemination of Asturian and Mirandese.
- Tribute to professor and academic Miguel Ramos Corrada (2014).

LANGUAGES AND LANGUAGE MODALITIES OF ARAGON

Data on the number of speakers

49. The Committee of Experts urges the authorities to clarify the current number of Aragonese and Catalan speakers and to provide information in the next periodical report.

The Population and Housing Census of 2011 offers important sociolinguistic data, covering the entire territory of the Autonomous Community through a very large sample of the population. In the case of Catalan, there is also data provided by the survey promoted in 2014 by the Directorate-General for Language Policy of the Catalan Government in collaboration with the Universities of Saragossa and Lleida.

The data obtained are the following:

In Aragon, more than 6% of citizens can speak Catalan or Aragonese, and almost 10% are able to understand it.

	Aragonese and Catalan	Aragonese	Catalan
Understand	127,639 (9.6%)	44,439 (3.3%)	83,199 (6.3%)
Can speak	81,068 (6.1%)	25,556 (1.9%)	55,531 (4.2%)

The speakers of these languages are highly concentrated geographically: in the case of Catalan, it is spoken along the Eastern Strip from north to south, whilst Aragonese is concentrated in certain localities of the High Aragon.

Studies detect that many of these speakers are not able to write correctly in these languages. This is largely due to a lack of schooling in the mother tongue.

Regarding the age ranges of speakers, it is detected that for both languages most speakers are between the ages of 26 and 45, with less speakers being older than 85 or younger than 16.

Intergenerational transmission is carried out fundamentally from parents to children.

In the case of Catalan, as previously indicated, Aragonese speakers are geographically concentrated along the Strip. The region with the greatest population of speakers is Bajo Cinca (42.2% of respondents). 52.2% are incipient Catalan speakers, 80% of the population of the Strip can speak Catalan and 94.1% understand it. 74.7% of the respondents declare that they know how to read it. Catalan in this region of the Strip is spoken as the common language of communication in 49.9% of cases, compared to

46.5% of Castilian. Only 9.4% of the respondents declare they make exclusive use of Catalan. Finally, 22.8% declare that they do not use Catalan at all.

2. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ARTICLES OF THE CHARTER

Article 7 – Objectives and principles

Paragraph 1

In respect of regional or minority languages, within the territories in which such languages are used and according to the situation of each language, the Parties shall base their policies, legislation and practice on the following objectives and principles:

a the recognition of the regional or minority languages as an expression of cultural wealth;

99. (...)The Committee of Experts strongly urges the authorities to adopt the necessary measures to recognise the status of Catalan and Aragonese as languages traditionally spoken in Aragon.

The legal framework of internal law on language matters in the Autonomous Community of Aragon is constituted by the Statute of Autonomy (Article 7 - languages and language modalities - and Article 71 section 4 - exclusive regional powers), as well as those already mentioned in previous periodic reports (Act 3/2013, of 9 May, on the use, protection and promotion of the languages and language modalities of Aragon, and Act 3/1999, of 10 March, on the Aragonese Cultural Heritage).

The main innovation in this regulatory framework during this period has been the amendment of Article 4 of Act 3/1999, of 10 March, on the Aragonese Cultural Heritage, operated by Act 2/2016, of 28 January, on Tax and Administrative Measures of the Autonomous Community of Aragon (Official State Gazette of 3 February), which states:

"Aragonese and Catalan of Aragon, which include dialectal varieties, are the own languages and language modalities to which Article 7 of the Statute of Autonomy of Aragon of 2007 and Act 3/2013, of 9 May, on the use, protection and promotion of the languages and language modalities of Aragon, refer".

With this, the specific languages of the Aragonese language heritage are expressly mentioned.

c the need for resolute action to promote regional or minority languages in order to safeguard them;

120.(...) The Committee of Experts strongly urges the authorities to adopt a specific legal framework for the protection and promotion of Catalan and Aragonese in Aragon as separate languages..

Progress has been made in adopting measures that protect and promote the languages and language modalities of the Autonomous Community of Aragon.

The explicit inclusion of Aragonese and Catalan of Aragon within the Act 3/1999, of 10 March, on the Aragonese Cultural Heritage has already been mentioned.

Within the administrative structure, the Directorate-General of Language Policy was created in 2015, within the Department of Education, Culture and Sports of the Government of Aragon.

In the media, the promotion of the use of the Aragonese languages within the promotion of the Aragonese culture is worth highlighting. Act 4/2016, of 19 May, amending Act 8/1987, of 15 April, on the creation, organization and parliamentary control of the Aragonese Radio and Television Corporation, includes an additional provision that provides for the preparation of a plan of promotion and support for independent Aragonese production. It shall involve, at least, between 1-3% of the budget of the Aragonese Corporation of Radio and Television, and shall have among its objectives the promotion of Aragon's culture, territory, traditions and own languages.

a the facilitation and/or encouragement of the use of regional or minority languages, in speech and writing, in public and private life;

133. According to the fourth periodical report, measures have been taken in order to award literary prizes with the aim to stimulate creation in languages native to Aragon. The Decree 221/2013 of the Aragonese Government regulates prizes for literary creations. The Aragonese publishing sector has founded the literary prize Arnal Caveró-Guillem Nicolau. However, it is not clear to the Committee of Experts for which languages the prizes are awarded.

The Arnal Caveró (Aragonese) and Guillem Nicolau (Catalan) prizes were merged into a single prize in 2012. In 2014 and 2015, no works were submitted.

f the provision of appropriate forms and means for the teaching and study of regional or minority languages at all appropriate stages;

151. The Committee of Experts has not received any information regarding this undertaking and asks for information in the next periodical report.

There have been many initiatives in recent years in this area. Noteworthy among these are:

- The Syllabi of Primary and Secondary Education have been published.

In ECD Order 489/2016, of 26 May, which approves the syllabus of Compulsory Secondary Education and authorizes the implementation thereof in the educational centres of Aragon, establishes:

- Article 4: "...respect for the cultural identity of students and their families and social environment shall be incorporated into the learning processes related to the cultural productions of the Autonomous Community of Aragon, its territory, natural, social and cultural heritage, together with its own languages and language modalities ... "
- Article 6: within the general objectives of Compulsory Secondary Education: Section h: "to understand and to express oneself correctly, orally and in writing, in the Castilian language and, where appropriate, in Aragonese or in the Catalan of Aragon, texts and complex messages, and begin with the acquisition of knowledge, reading and study of literature".
- Articles 9 and 10 establish the organization of the first and second cycle of Secondary Education. Among the free elective subjects, the option to study Aragonese or Catalan is included.
- Article 28 expands the provision of teaching in Aragon's own languages. It establishes that they shall be taught for two or three hours per week.

In ECD Order 494/2016, of 26 May, which approves the post-Compulsory Secondary Education curriculum, the following is foreseen:

- Article 6: Within the objectives of this school period is "to master, both orally and in writing, the Castilian language and, where appropriate, the Aragonese language or the Catalan language of Aragon."
- Articles 10 and 11: organization of the first and second year of post-Compulsory Secondary Education. In the different modalities (Science, Humanities and Arts) the student may choose to study the Catalan or the Aragonese language.
- Article 30 establishes that the time commitment shall be two or three hours per week.

Subsequently, ECD Order 850/2016, of 29 July, amending the Order of 16 June 2014, approving the Primary Education syllabus, was handed down. The main innovation is that referring to the teaching in languages and language modalities of Aragon. With this regulatory amendment, authorized centres shall offer courses in Aragon's languages and language modalities, with a minimum schedule of 90 minutes per week. Schools can implement language projects that facilitate learning.

The syllabus determines the objectives, contents, criteria and learning standards of these languages.

- In relation to the teaching staff that teaches the languages and language modalities of Aragon, progress can also be mentioned during this period.
- The Seminar of Teachers of Catalan has resumed in the 2015-2016 academic year. It is taught during four sessions, as well as the Seminar of Teachers of Aragonese.
- During the 2015-2016 academic year, there were 11 teachers for Aragonese (for 665 students) and 75 teachers for Catalan (for 4,481 students). This is an increase compared to previous years: in the 2014-2015 academic year there were 9 teachers for Aragonese and 55 for Catalan.

In the case of Aragonese, the teachers have attended the educational programme "Luzia Dueso" for the dissemination of Aragonese and its modalities, organized by the Directorate-General for Language Policy. 23 centres have participated and 37 activities have been carried out during the 2015-2016 academic year.

- On 30 October 2015 (Official State Gazette of 1 February 2016) an agreement was signed between the Director-General for Language Policy of the Government of Aragon and the Vice-Rector of Technology Transfer and Innovation of the University of Saragossa for the implementation of a pilot programme of incorporation of Aragonese into the education system as a vehicular language. The programme is called "Rosario Ustáriz" and counts on existing human resources within the educational system, so there is no additional expense.
- On 20 November 2015, the "1st Working Day on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) and its application to Aragonese" was held, with experts from various universities. A technical team has been working to validate the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The objective is to hold, in 2017, A2 and B1 level tests.

h the promotion of study and research on regional or minority languages at universities or equivalent institutions;

173. According to the information provided in the fourth periodical report, the Aragonese Language Academy was created in 2013 as the official scientific institution in the field of native languages and language modalities. One of its tasks is to establish rules on the correct use of the languages and language

modalities native to Aragon. The Committee of Experts would welcome information about the functioning of the Academy in the next periodical report.

The Aragonese Academy of the Language was created by Act 3/2013 but during the reference period of this Report it has not been launched. It shall have two Institutes, one dedicated to the Aragonese language and another dedicated to the Catalan language of Aragon. Currently, it is in the period of approval of its Statutes, which shall be the rules for the internal functioning of the institution.

LEONESE IN CASTILLA Y LEÓN

The Statute of Autonomy of Castilla y León establishes in its Article 5, "The Castilian language and the rest of the language heritage of the Autonomous Community", the following:

"1. Castilian is part of the most valuable historical and cultural heritage of the Community, extending to cover all of Spain and many other States. The Junta de Castilla y León shall promote the correct use of Castilian in the educational, administrative and cultural fields. Likewise, it shall promote its learning in the international sphere, especially in collaboration with the Universities of the Community, for which it may adopt the measures it deems appropriate.

2. Leonese shall be object of specific protection by the institutions given its particular value within the language heritage of the Community. Its protection, use and promotion shall be subject to regulation.

3. The Galician language shall enjoy respect and protection in the places where it is habitually used. "

Leonese and Galician are, therefore, minority languages in this territory.

The Junta de Castilla y León [Government of the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León], through the Department of Culture and Tourism, is carrying out various activities in relation to the protection, use and promotion of Leonese, amongst which the following are worth mentioning:

- Publishing the work "Cuentos de la Caleyá 2". This publication contains the prizes of a contest aimed at Leonese schoolchildren under 14 years of age, whose main objective is to promote oral transmission from parents to children and grandparents to grandchildren of traditional Leonese stories, to reward the quality of writing by children and young people, and to contribute to the appreciation and dissemination of the language. The stories offer the added interest of preserving expressions from different regions of León and also those from minority dialects of the Leonese language in the strips of Ancares and Villafranca del Bierzo.

- The Provincial Public Library of León has carried out several activities, such as a round table on Leonese, its use and its promotion, with the participation of Ricardo Chao Prieto (teacher at the Augustinian School), Emilio Gancedo (journalist at the

Diario de León newspaper), José Ramón Morala (lecturer of the University of León) and Enrique Soto de Soto (President of La Caleyá).

A bibliographic exhibition of works published in Leonese has also been carried out, with the aim of showing works published in the four areas that speak the same language, collectively called Asturian-Leonese namely: León, Zamora, Asturias and Miranda do Douro.

The book *Rellatos y Poemas de La Caleyá: textos premiaos* ("Stories and Poems of La Caleyá: Award-winning texts") was presented, accompanied by a participative reading of texts and stories in Leonese.

Finally, the cooperation agreements in language matters with bordering Autonomous Communities such as Galicia and Asturias, which have already been mentioned in previous sections, are also worth highlighting.

AMAZIGE IN MELILLA

Due to the different definitions that are used to refer to the same reality, and following the indications of professor Tilmatine and the information provided by the City of Melilla for the preparation of this report, we shall refer to the Amazige language and not to "Tamazight " or " Amazight " .

In the City of Melilla, the two majority languages are Castilian and Amazige, and although the former is the only official language recognised by Organic Law 2/1995, of March 13, on the Statute of Autonomy of the City of Melilla, Article 5.2 thereof establishes:

"The institutions of the City of Melilla, within the framework of their powers, shall exercise these with the following basic objectives (...):

h) The promotion and encouragement of the values of understanding, respect and appreciation of the cultural and language plurality of Melilla's population. "

The legal framework derived from the Statute includes local and regional characteristics that converge, making it a unique autonomous city. Thus the Constitutional Court, in Ruling 240/2006, of 26 July, stated that, while its legal system is different from that enjoyed by the Autonomous Communities, it is also different from that of other Municipalities; it has a special regime of autonomy, a unique regime of local autonomy that is based on the Constitution itself and is regulated in its Statute of Autonomy, which is reflected in its special regime of powers.

However, it must be borne in mind that the powers in areas in which the implementation of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages would acquire a singular and pertinent importance, have not been transferred to the City of Melilla, such as Education, Health and Justice.

Point 15 of the 4th Report of the Committee of Experts on Spain states "Nevertheless, some progress has been made with regard to Tamazight in Melilla", although it later states "according to the information provided by the Spanish authorities in their fourth periodical report, only partial data are available on the number and distribution of Tamazight speakers"; then, in point 35, it urges the authorities "to provide the relevant information and related updated data about the number of speakers of Tamazight."

The Institute of Cultures of the City of Melilla declares itself incapable of undertaking a project of this magnitude at this point. For its part, the National Statistics Institute on principle cannot conduct population censuses by ethnic groups.

However, the Institute of Cultures and the Department of the Presidency of Melilla are totally committed to this need and foresee as far as possible carrying out this task in collaboration with Spain's Central Administration. The forecast of the Institute of Cultures is to be able to carry out a sociolinguistic census of the number of speakers of the Amazige language during the years 2018 and 2019, in order to have a real map of speakers of that language by neighbourhoods and districts.

In point 102, the Committee of Experts takes note of the recognition of the Amazige Language in Melilla. According to the fourth report of 2013, the Government of the City promoted a Pact for Interculturality, whose point 14 of the operative part states "Taking into account the reiterated observations and recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, in relation to the implementation in Melilla of the European Charter of Regional or Minority Languages, the Assembly recognizes Tamazight as a traditional language that is an inseparable part of the intangible cultural heritage common to all of Melilla's citizens. The necessary protection and safeguard of Tamazight must not be to the detriment of the official Castilian language or to the need and duty to learn it".

At this point it is necessary to emphasize that in 2013 the Government of the City of Melilla continued promoting that Pact following two parallel paths. On the one hand, debating within the Assembly with the representation of all political parties and, on the other, through an open dialogue with numerous entities and persons representing the City (NGOs, social partners, universities, etc.). The Declaration, the final version of which was drafted by the Institute of Cultures, was the product of the convergence of approaches, suggestions, opinions and ideas of a multitude of political, social, cultural, neighbourhood, and humanitarian organizations that participated in an unprecedented deliberative process in the City.

This process culminated on 21 July 2014 with the approval, by the majority of the Members of the City Assembly, of the "Declaration for a Pact for Interculturality in the Autonomous City of Melilla"

Appreciation of the Amazige Language is a verifiable reality in the City of Melilla, since in the sphere of employment there is a growing demand for people who speak the language. This objective data shows that there is a need to train people with a high cultural level to perfectly master the Amazige language. Although practically half of the population speaks Amazige, it is also true that a very high percentage, if not practically the majority, does not know the grammar and writing of their own language, so a course with university accreditation aimed at this sector of the population is essential.

As professor Tilmatine points out: "The question of the teaching of the Amazige language in Melilla presents great problems that are not experienced by other languages such as Castilian, German or even Arabic. Amazige or Berber is a language that does not have an established form of writing. Its speakers speak it and they can have a very good oral command of their mother tongue, of course, but not having studied and therefore 'reflected' on their language, they really 'do not know' it."

The City of Melilla, through the Institute of Cultures, has taken a very important first step in this regard with the recently held First Course for Teacher Trainers in the Amazige Language. (And even though this course in the future shall seek to comply with the guidelines of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR), the aforesaid specificity of the Berber language must be taken into account in

order not to be governed solely and exclusively by this reference). Spain's National Distance Education (UNED) awards credits for completing this course.

A collaboration agreement has also been signed with the Department of Public Security, to carry out training actions aimed at staff working for the 112 emergency hotline, serving the public directly and in coordination work.

Likewise, taking into account the percentage of Melilla's Amazige population who are professionals in the military, a collaboration agreement has been implemented with COMGEMEL (General Command of Melilla), to carry out a pilot project of training actions aimed at both Commissioned and Non-Commissioned Officers, as well as at soldiers and corporals of the different units of COMGEMEL, involving basic knowledge and learning of the Amazige language.

The Permanent Seminar on Amazige Language and Culture continues to be promoted, as well as the open broadcast of programmes in the Amazige language, the publication in the Amazige language of one of the chapters of Don Quixote (in *El Quijote Políglota*), storytelling in the Amazige language in the city's children's libraries, as well as the reprinting of the book "Making progress in the didactics of the language of El Rif".

In short, even though the Amazige language in the City of Melilla continues to be very much a minority language, maintained thanks to oral tradition, whose written alphabet is generally unknown by a large majority of Amazige-speaking citizens, it must be noted that a fundamental first step has been taken with the training of university graduates in the Amazige language and grammar in 2017 so that in 2018 a pilot project can be carried out after school hours aimed at teaching children the language and its grammar.