Brochure 2026/2027

PLURILINGMEDIA

Language Plurality
in Europe's Changing
Media Sphere

Researching and Promoting

Linguistic Diversity in Media

cost
EUROPEAN COOPERATION IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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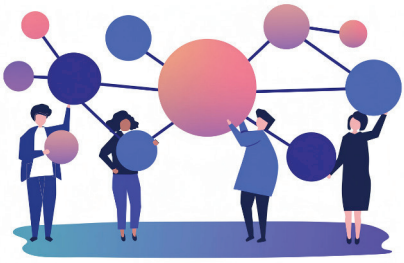
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What is PLURILINGMEDIA?

PLURILINGMEDIA is an EU-funded research network known as a COST Action after the programme funding it. It officially launched in October 2024 and will run as a COST Action until October 2028.

The full title 'Language Plurality in Europe's Changing Media Sphere' encompasses the two core tenets of the network's focus: language and media. More precisely, regional and minority languages are the core linguistic interest, with media broadly defined to include broadcasting, printed press and social media, plus all the overlaps in between.



Key Themes

PLURILINGMEDIA focuses on four thematic areas which relate to the central challenge of understanding how recent trends influence the effectiveness of media provision on language maintenance / revitalisation. These core but overlapping areas are:

- **the changing audience and content creator habits, with subsequent effects on media provision and consumption**
- **relevant legislation and standards aimed at language protection**
- **effects on language vitality and how media overlaps with education and planning**
- **the practice of journalism and how it is being shaped by the changing habits and practices.**

These four themes form the basis of our four Working Groups through which the activities of PLURILINGMEDIA are structured.

Notes from the Chairs



Craig Willis
Action Chair
European Centre for Minority Issues



Lara Sorgo
Action Vice Chair
Institute for Ethnic Studies

Dear PLURILINGMEDIA members, partners and future collaborators,

We are now passing the half-way point of the PLURILINGMEDIA COST Action, which launched in October 2024 and will run until October 2028. It is an optimal time to reflect upon the achievements so far but also to look forward to two more full-on years of networking events across the wider Europe. The second 'Grant Period' began with our first General Conference, held in Warsaw with the Polish Academy of Sciences. With around 80 participants, it was possibly the largest academic event dedicated specifically to minority language media and marked a significant achievement for the Action and the field of study.

Grant Period 2 also saw us introduce the format of policy workshop, holding two events in Gaillimh/Galway and Helsingfors/Helsinki with two more planned for 2027, in Brest and Yerevan. These have allowed us to engage further with stakeholders outside of academia and develop policy briefs on a pressing and contemporary topic related to each Working Group. The launch of our Ad-hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence was another significant development in 2026, engaging a series of experts in the form of monthly online seminars and then a workshop in Valletta, Malta. These diverse types of events have allowed us to increase our cooperation with an array of non-academic stakeholders such as the European Association for Daily Newspapers (MIDAS), the European Language Equality Network (ELEN), the Network for Promoting Linguistic Diversity (NPLD), as well as members of the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts to the ECRML and Advisory Committee to the FCNM.

PLURILINGMEDIA

All of these we hope to continue in 2027 as we seek to ensure PLURILINGMEDIA brings co-designed outputs of relevance for activism, industry and academia.

Our second General Conference is our flagship event for 2027, hosted by Sapientia University in Kolószvar/Cluj in Romania. This will be another landmark event for PLURILINGMEDIA and will no doubt lead to further outputs to strengthen the field. Two edited volumes are well-advanced in the pipeline for WG2 and WG3, as we seek to contribute comparative approaches to minority language media research on legislation and language vitality. We are already seeing the fruits of the consolidation and expansion of the field which is benefiting from the COST funding, prestige and energy the Core Group are bringing. Our task in the coming two years is to ensure the Action has a multifaceted lasting legacy beyond 2028.

We remain grateful to the institutional support and endorsement of the European Centre for Minority Issues and the Institute for Ethnic Studies in allowing us to lead this Action, as well as to the various leading institutes, networks and media outlets across Europe which support their staff and members in engaging with PLURILINGMEDIA.

All the best,

Craig and Lara,
October 2026



Working Group 1:

Audience and Content Creator Habits



Enrique Uribe-Jongbloed
Working Group 1 Leader
Cardiff University



Cláudia Martins
Working Group 1 Vice-Leader
Universidade Politécnica de Bragança

Working Group 1 explores audience habits and content creation practices within the context of media plurality and minority languages. It brings together scholars and practitioners to understand how digital media, especially social media and household consumption preferences, shape the production and reception of content in multilingual environments. In mid-2026, previous Leader, Karolina Lendák-Kabók moved into the Gender Equality Officer and Enrique Uribe-Jongbloed stepped up from Vice-Leader alongside our former Scientific Communication Coordinator, Cláudia Martins.

Objectives:

- Build a network of academics and practitioners focused on digital content creation and audience preference.
- Facilitate knowledge exchange and peer learning through best practices in multilingual media.
- Collect best practice and case studies from the whole COST region to provide a more ample perspective of the impact of content creation upon linguistic diversity.
- Stimulate academic research and collaboration on minority language media studies.
- Explore how digital platforms and social media are changing the exchange of audiovisual content, especially in its impact on public broadcasting, and what this means for regional and minority language communities.
- Promote research around language diversity and media consumption in multilingual mixed-language households, to understand preference of individual and collective choice.

Working Group 2:

Legislation and Standards



Miren Manias-Muñoz
Working Group 2 Leader
University of the Basque Country



Balázs Kiss
Working Group 2 Vice-Leader
Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem



Working Group 2 connects experts on the legislation (hard law) and standards (soft law) introduced at international and national levels to protect minority / minoritized / regional languages in the media. It seeks to analyze the processes concerning the creation of media-related legal frameworks and their implementation, explore how legal dynamics are impacting on language plurality, and how they are perceived by relevant stakeholders. Following a leadership reshuffle, Balázs Kiss has joined the leadership team, building upon the work of previous Vice-Leader, Jarmo Lainio of Stockholm University, who is now concentrating on editing the working group's edited volume.

Objectives:

- Connect experts on legislation and standards to support language plurality in media.
- Examine international and national legislation (ECRML, FCNM, AVMSD, etc.) and its potential for strengthening language plurality through the provision of media.
- Address challenges posed by digitalization, new technologies (e.g., AI), and the dominance of hegemonic languages.
- Facilitate exchanges of expertise at the national level to highlight positive legislative developments.
- Showcase solutions protecting language plurality in the media as competing with major international producers

Working Group 3:

Linguistic Vitality



Nicole Dołowy-Rybińska
Working Group 3 Leader
Polish Academy of Sciences



Sanita Martena
Working Group 3 Vice-Leader
Rezekne Academy of Technologies

Working Group 3 explores the connection between minority media and language vitality, with a focus on language education, revitalization, and development. It examines the role of media in education, literacy, and everyday language practices, including the family domain, as well as their impact on minority language communities and speakers.



Objectives:

- Explore how different media formats, including social media, affect heritage, regional and minority language communities and their speakers.
- Identify and share good minority language media practices in minority language education (formal and informal).
- Assess the impact of minority language media on literacy skills and everyday minority language practices.
- Create a space for dialogue between minority language media creators and practitioners to increase their effectiveness in language maintenance, revitalization, development, and prestige planning.

Working Group 4:

Journalism



Jenny Stenberg-Sirén
Working Group 4 Leader
University of Helsinki



Orsolya Bukovinszky-Csáki
Working Group 4 Vice-Leader
Honline Media

Working Group 4 focuses on minority language journalists and the unique challenges they face (professionalism, training, journalistic identity, working conditions, role in society, the influence of kin-states over MLM, etc.). Its aim is to create a network of academics and practitioners with an interest in journalism within minority language media.



Objectives:

- Enhance knowledge exchange, peer support, and learning by best practices.
- Raise an academic interest in the field, initiate collaborations, and give a spark to new research projects.
- Strengthen the quality and quantity of journalistic media content for minority language groups.
- Focus on conceptual issues: defining what MLM, minority language journalism is (compared to majority language media and journalism).
- Identify and share good minority language media practices in minority language education (formal and informal).

Communications & Outreach



Jakob Volgger
Science Communication Coordinator
Eurac Research



Sebastian Müller
Assistant Science Communication Coordinator
Trier University

@plurilingmedia



Communications tasks

The communications team has a crucial role in PLURILINGMEDIA, relating both to internal communication amongst the existing members as well as external communication to the broader interested public and expert stakeholders. The central hub for this is our website, www.plurilingmedia.eu, which includes a regularly updated news section. We also launched our all-action newsletter on October 1st 2025 and have provided monthly updates on PLURILINGMEDIA's activities and calls, as well as external events and publications of relevance to our members.

Social Media

PLURILINGMEDIA launched its social media channels in early 2025, focusing predominantly on LinkedIn and Instagram. YouTube is used for the embedded videos on our website and for longer-form content.. Within the first two years, our presence has grown rapidly on LinkedIn and steadily on Instagram. Our aims going forward are to increase our audiovisual output, including launching the video blog series of practitioners/speakers in their own language.

Website

Our dedicated PLURILINGMEDIA website serves as an overview of the project as well as a resource for academics, policymakers, and practitioners. It is the central hub for all key information about the network and its activities, providing an accessible space where the four Working Groups can share updates and highlight their ongoing projects. The site is aimed both at members and at anyone interested in minority language media, offering clear and up-to-date information – for example about available grants, training schools, and collaborative initiatives.

Governance & Civil Society

An overarching aim of PLURILINGMEDIA is to be a network which brings together various stakeholders from the media industry, policymakers, international organisations and importantly communities themselves. With this purpose in mind, the Action added the leadership role 'Governance and Civil Society Officer', tasked with being that bridge between the aforementioned and academia. This role is held by Elin Haf Gruffydd Jones who is also the President of the European Language Equality Network (ELEN) and associate member of the Network for Promoting Linguistic Diversity (NPLD). She is also a frequent expert contributor for publications of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and its Committee of Experts, and has extensively published academic articles and books in the field of minority language media. This unique skillset has allowed her to act as a central point for the Action, building synergies between the different types of stakeholders and helping us achieve our deliverables and maximise our impact and benefit to the industry and minority language communities.



Elin Haf Gruyffdd Jones
Governance and Civil Society Officer
University Of Wales Trinity Saint David

PLURILINGMEDIA Grants

COST Actions provide several different grants for members to apply to, in order to contribute to PLURILINGMEDIA's objectives.
These include:

- Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSM)
- Dissemination Conference Grants
- Inclusiveness Target Country (ITC) Grants
- Young Researcher and Innovator (YRI) Grants

Grant applications for all of these are assessed by a committee, led by our Grant Awarding Coordinator. The first two years of our Action was led by Noémi Nagy who developed the framework for evaluation and oversaw the Grant Awarding Committee - a rotating body of Core Group members. Former Assistant Scientific Communication Coordinator, Lexi Dawn Halász, has stepped into this role for the final two years of the Action.
The Grant Awarding Coordinator works closely with the Grant Holder Manager at the European Centre for Minority Issues, a role previously held by Laura Seben for the first two years of the Action and now held by Viktoria Aygül for the remainder of the Action.
In the first two years, approximately €62,000 were awarded in the form of grants to PLURILINGMEDIA members. This was in line with COST target demographics, ensuring aspects of young researchers, ITC countries and gender were considered. We also sought to fund a variety of different stakeholders, not just inside academic but also practitioners and activists.



Lexi Dawn Halász
Grant Awarding Coordinator
UIC
/ Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem

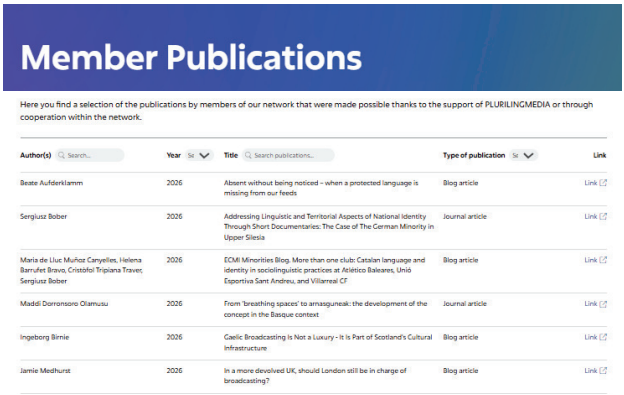


Viktoria Aygül
Grant Holder Manager
European Centre for Minority Issues

PLURILINGMEDIA Publications

Member Publications

The Member Publications section showcases a curated selection of works by network members since October 2024, that have been involved PLURILINGMEDIA's support or through cooperation within the network, reflecting the diversity of its community. This includes journal articles, book chapters and also scientific blogposts such as the MIDAS blog which has been a particularly supportive outlet for many of our members.



Member Publications

Here you find a selection of the publications by members of our network that were made possible thanks to the support of PLURILINGMEDIA or through cooperation within the network.

Author(s)	Year	Title	Type of publication	Link
Beate Aufderklamm	2026	Absent without being noticed – when a protected language is missing from our feeds	Blog article	Link
Sergiusz Bober	2026	Addressing Linguistic and Territorial Aspects of National Identity Through Short Documentaries: The Case of The German Minority in Upper Silesia	Journal article	Link
Maria de Lluc Muñoz Canyelles, Helena Barrufet Bravo, Cristòfol Tripiana Traver, Sergiusz Bober	2026	ECMI Minorities Blog. More than one club: Catalan language and identity in sociolinguistic practices at Atlético Baleares, Unió Esportiva Sant Andreu, and Villarreal CF	Blog article	Link
Maddi Dorronsoro Olamusu	2026	From 'breathing spaces' to arnasgunea: the development of the concept in the Basque context	Journal article	Link
Ingeborg Birnie	2026	Gaelic Broadcasting Is Not a Luxury - It Is Part of Scotland's Cultural Infrastructure	Blog article	Link
Jamie Medhurst	2026	In a more devolved UK, should London still be in charge of broadcasting?	Blog article	Link



PLURILINGMEDIA Bibliography

One of the aims of PLURILINGMEDIA is to compile a bibliography of publications on media in regional and minority languages, intended to facilitate comparative studies between different contexts. Using the Zotero citation software, the database already has over 250 items and continues to grow as we add further works. The bibliography also contains the full listings of the Mercator Media Forum and its 10 volumes, the first time this has been catalogued online.



Title	Creator	Date	Publication Title
Ramah Navajo radio and cultural preservation	Rada	1978	Journal of Broadcasting
From Communication Policy to Reconstruction of Cultural Identity: Pros...	Gifreu	1986	European Journal of Commu...
Aboriginal radio in Australia: From dreamtime to prime time?	Browne	1990...	Journal of Communication
Ethnic Minority Media: An International Perspective	Riggins	1992	
Raidió Na Gaeltachta: Reviver, Preserver or Swan Song of the Irish Lang...	Browne	1992	European Journal of Commu...
Problems of Minority Language Broadcasting: Gaelic in Scotland	Cormack	1993	European Journal of Commu...
Le Mercator Média Forum / The Mercator Media Forum	Thomas	1995	Mercator Media Forum
L'Aventure de la télévision quotidienne frisonne	Falkena	1995	Mercator Media Forum
A Short History of Egunkaria. How a daily newspaper in Basque was set ...	De Ugalde	1995	Mercator Media Forum
Teilifís na Gaeilge: une chaîne de télévision en langue irlandaise	Ní Chinnéide	1995	Mercator Media Forum
Les Europes. A cross-cultural publishing project	Mercator Media Forum	1995	Mercator Media Forum
Radio et télévision ladine	Rasom	1995	Mercator Media Forum
Minority Cultures and the Audiovisual Policy of the European Community	López	1995	Mercator Media Forum
The Catalan used on Television	Vallverdú	1995	Mercator Media Forum
The Welsh used on Television	Awbery	1995	Mercator Media Forum
Led Fonds bretons à la Bibliothèque Nationale du Pays de Galles	Lloyd-Morgan	1995	Mercator Media Forum
Audience Research and Minority Language Broadcasting	Magnussen	1995	Mercator Media Forum
Electronic media and indigenous peoples: a voice of our own	Browne	1996	
Établir des connections / Building Networks	Thomas	1996	Mercator Media Forum
Two Experiments in Electronic Journalism	Partal	1996	Mercator Media Forum



Sergiusz Bober
Publications Manager
European Centre for Minority Issues



Aleksandra Ozmiańska-Pagett
Policy Liaison
Samuel B. Linde College of Modern Languages

Academic Deliverables

Across the four working groups, several collective academic deliverables are planned. This includes two edited volumes for WG2 and WG3 which are already in process and have chapters proposed, with Routledge and Multilingual Matters as publishers. WG1 is developing a special issue proposal with the European Journal of Cultural Studies. Finally, WG4 is also working on a publication related to minority language journalism, aimed for our final year, 2028.





Policy Briefs

Each of the four working groups in PLURILINGMEDIA is holding a policy workshop on a specific theme of contemporary relevance. The written output of these will be a series of policy briefs aimed at identified enablers of the respective policy area. This also includes a synergy with Council of Europe instruments in particular. These will be published in 2026/2027, allowing us the final year for dissemination to key stakeholders.

Year 2 Events

First PLURILINGMEDIA General Conference

The first PLURILINGMEDIA general conference, Media and Language Vitality, took place on 4–5 December 2025 at the Institute of Slavic Studies of the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw. Over two intensive days at the Staszic Palace, researchers and practitioners explored how media practices shape the vitality and future of minoritised and regional languages.



WG1 Policy Workshop, Gaillimhe/Galway

The PLURILINGMEDIA policy workshop, held on 27–28 April 2026 at Ollscoil na Gaillimhe (University of Galway), was organised by Working Group 1 and brought together researchers, media practitioners and policymakers to examine how changing consumption habits are reshaping minority language media across Europe. It also offered an opportunity to engage directly with the Irish context.





WG4 Policy Workshop, Helsingfors/Helsinki

On 2–3 June 2026, members of PLURILINGMEDIA Working Group 4 met at the Swedish School of Social Science at the University of Helsinki for a policy workshop on the education and training of minority language journalists. The two-day event brought together researchers and practitioners to discuss current challenges, exchange experiences from different linguistic contexts and develop recommendations for future policy action.

Training School 2 in Fiume/Rijeka

From 18 to 20 May 2026, PLURILINGMEDIA held its second Training School, "Linguistic Plurality in Media: International and National Legal Frameworks," hosted by the Faculty of Law at the University of Rijeka. Organised by Working Group 2, the event was arranged in collaboration with the Faculty's Chair of European Public Law and Chair of Foreign Languages, under the leadership of Prof. Vesna Crnić. The event bought together 16 early-career researchers, students, and media practitioners, including three full days of lectures and workshops. Participants examined the legal frameworks protecting minority language media at the European level and through several national case studies, including minorities in Croatia. The trainees also visited the publishing house of the Italian minority newspaper, La Voce del Popolo, as well as the city museum. Following the Training School, WG2 then held a working group meeting on 21-22 May in Rijeka, bringing together more members and developing plans for the coming two years.





WG3 Meeting in Tirana



From 31 March to 1 April 2026, WG3 leaders met in Tirana for a two-day workshop hosted by the College of Europe campus. Facilitated by Iva Nenadić (Centre for Media Pluralism and Media Freedom, European University Institute), the event brought together members from Albania and North Macedonia. The program also included presentations by College of Europe students on EU media contexts.

Ad Hoc Committee on AI



Jelske Dijkstra
Head of the Ad Hoc Committee on AI
Mercator European Research Centre / Stichting Fryske Akademy

Meeting in Malta

On 5–6 October 2026, PLURILINGMEDIA's ad hoc committee on artificial intelligence gathered at the University of Malta in Valletta for a two-day workshop. The meeting provided an opportunity to review progress, exchange perspectives and discuss future activities addressing the opportunities and challenges of AI for minority-language media.

Looking ahead, the committee discussed its next steps and plans for future publications. The committee will work on a report expected in early 2027 addressing key AI-related issues across PLURILINGMEDIA's four working groups.



Where we have been, where we are going...

PLURILINGMEDIA has a total of four years funding as a COST Action, taking it until 1st October 2028. These two further years (or Grant Periods) will also feature many events across Europe, as well as publications based on our envisaged deliverables.

Year 3 (01.11.2026 – 31.10.2027)

- 2nd General Conference in Kolozsvár/Cluj-Napoca
- WG3 Policy Workshops in Brittany
- WG2 Policy Workshop in Yerevan
- 3rd Training School in Bragança and Miranda do Douro



Year 4 (01.11.2027 – 01.10.2028)

- 3rd General Conference
- Policy Paper Dissemination Forum
- 4th training school, led by WG3

In its first two years from October 2024 - September 2026, PLURILINGMEDIA organized its events across Europe. From Training Schools and working meetings to events that foster knowledge exchange and collaboration, each gathering has contributed to strengthening our network and advancing our shared goals. This map offers a glimpse into our journey so far, with **blue** indicating years one and two whilst **pink** indicating year three.



Gender and Inclusivity among Working Group Members



Karolina Lendák-Kabók
Gender Equality Officer
Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem

PLURILINGMEDIA has attracted a large number and variety of working group membership applications over its first two years.

PLURILINGMEDIA is committed to fostering an inclusive and diverse research community. Over 60% of the Action's members are female researchers, language activists, and practitioners, represented across all four Working groups and the Core Group. Members from Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs) account for 55% of Working Group membership, and we continue to work towards strengthening their representation.

Total Working Group Members	374
Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITC)	55%
Female	61%
Young Researchers and Innovators (YRI)	39%

Total Members by Working Group	
Working Group 1	151
Working Group 2	112
Working Group 3	192
Working Group 4	104

While Young Researchers and Innovators (YRIs) currently make up 39% of Working Group members, we are committed to ensuring that youth perspectives are heard and included across our events and sessions, while actively encouraging more YRIs to join the Action. Through these ongoing efforts, PLURILINGMEDIA seeks to bring diverse experences, perspectives, and voices into dialogue.

PLURILINGMEDIA Core Group

Craig Willis
Action Chair

Lara Sorgo
Action Vice-Chair

Enrique Uribe-Jongbloed
Working Group 1 Leader

Cláudia Martins
Working Group 1 Vice-Leader

Miren Manias-Muñoz
Working Group 2 Leader

Balázs Kiss
Working Group 2 Vice-Leader

Nicole Dołowy-Rybińska
Working Group 3 Leader

Sanita Martena
Working Group 3 Vice-Leader

Jenny Stenberg-Sirén
Working Group 4 Leader

Orsolya Bukovinszky-Csáki
Working Group 4 Vice-Leader

Lexi Dawn Halász
Grant Awarding Coordinator

Elin Haf Gruffydd Jones
Governance and Civil Society Officer

Jakob Volgger
Science Communication Coordinator

Sebastian Müller
Assistant Science Communication Coordinator

Sergiusz Bober
Publications Manager

Aleksandra Ozmiańska-Pagett
Policy Liaison

Jelske Dijkstra
Head of Ad Hoc Committee on AI

Karolina Lendák-Kabók
Gender Equality Officer



PLURILINGMEDIA funders

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COST (European Cooperation in Science and Technology) is a funding agency for research and innovation networks. Our Actions help connect research initiatives across Europe and enable scientists to grow their ideas by sharing them with their peers. This boosts their research, career and innovation.





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