



1. Investigation results and suggestions

AEC wants to be an inclusive association, giving the possibility to the AEC community at large to know about its activities, policy and projects and to have access to its publications. Since the last GA, where the language issue was addressed as part of the General Assembly, many informal discussions have taken place with AEC members to gather their concerns and suggestions in relation to AEC language policy. Various, sometimes controversial arguments were raised, e.g.: providing simultaneous translations at AEC Congress is a sign of diversity; excluding the majority from the option of expressing themselves in their mother tongue would be discriminatory; etc.

In addition, AEC office member Nina Scholtens conducted between April and June 2018 guided interviews with representatives of seven selected European organisations to learn more about their language policies and their experiences. These selected organisations included some of our long-standing partners (such as ELIA, EUA, Pearle*) as well as organisations that are similar to AEC in terms of structure, size and outreach, but are dealing with other subjects such as broadcasting and health care. The most important result of these investigations is that none of these partner organisations provides simultaneous translation at their events and only a few of them provide basic written information in other languages than English. All of them are reporting that the tendency in recent years is more in the direction of an increased focus on English.

Based on the discussions with AEC members, there is no apparent evidence that expanding the amount of languages in which simultaneous translation is offered at the Annual Congress would lead to an increase in the number of participants. On the other hand, no concerns or fears were raised that the number of participants might drop noticeably if no simultaneous interpretation was offered at the congress any more. Many of our interlocutors stated that even now institutions would only send those colleagues to AEC events who have appropriate English knowledge. In some cases, the institutions send principals together with English-speaking assistants.

2. Proposal to the GA

Based on these findings and experiences, the following proposal is submitted to AEC GA:

- AEC will discontinue simultaneous translations during AEC Congress.
- AEC will use money thus saved to offer more written translations, and for some documents in more languages. A survey will be conducted among AEC member institutions to decide on a list of documents to be translated and in which languages (Part 3).
- During AEC events, speakers will have the opportunity to present in their mother tongue, if they send their text 3 weeks before the event.

- AEC will encourage its members to translate AEC documents and publications and will publish the translated versions on the AEC website along with the translations officially produced by AEC.

3. Survey on extending written translations

AEC Office has carefully compiled a list of documents which can serve as example for AEC members, to illustrate how the number of documents translated as well as the amount of languages could be extended. AEC will conduct an online survey among its members to finalise the list of publications.

Suggested List of Documents

Documents that could be available in French, German, Italian, Spanish and Polish

Strategic Plan 2016-2021	2018
Erasmus+ beyond 2020 Position Paper	2018
AEC Student Handbook	2017
Publications of the AEC-SMS Project	2017-2021

Documents already available in English, German, French that could be available also in Italian, Spanish and Polish

AEC Learning Outcomes	2017
AEC Statutes (possibly renewed)	
Pre-College Music Education in Europe	2007

Documents that could be available in English, German, French and Italian

Reference Points for Design and Delivery of Degree Programmes	2011
Implementation and Use of Credit	2007
GA Documents	Each year
AEC Newsletter	Each year
Congress Reader	Each year

Other documents to be considered

AEC Handbook - Curriculum Design and Development in Higher Music Education

International External Examiners in Higher Music education: Role, Purpose and Case Studies

Learning from each other: Sharing Good Practice through Benchmarking Perspectives on 2nd cycle programmes in higher music education