

English as a *lingua franca* of the European Union? Applications to Ukraine?

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1. Introduction: Lernbrücke Chemnitz - Lwiw 2.0

lecture series

based on my own research specialisations

based on my own writings → read and ask the author

“exotic examples” for “awareness raising” (Brecht: Verfremdung?)

Schmied, Josef (2012).

[Standards of English in East Africa](#). In R. Hickey (ed.). *Standards of English. Codified Varieties around the World*. Cambridge: CUP, 229-255.

Schmied, Josef (2010).

English as a *lingua franca* of the European Union? Debates, concepts, projects. In M. Albi-Mikasa, S. Braun, S. Kalina (eds.). *Dimensionen der Zweitsprachenforschung - Dimensions of Second Language Research. Festschrift für Kurt Kohn*. Tübingen: Narr Francke Verlag, 141-158.

Schmied, Josef (fc.)

English in East Africa. *The Wiley Blackwell Encyclopedia of World Englishes*.

Albrecht, Sven (2021).

Current research on the linguistic features of Chinese English. *World Englishes* 40, 1–20.

focus on Source=credibility of texts:

Festschrift = low academic value, contrast to peer-reviewed scientific journal

lecture style: text-based and interactive (close reading)!

5. Conclusions: Take home message from “Africa” discussions

Language standards

- are fluid, flexible and controversial concepts,
- can be applied to pronunciation, lexicon, discourse, grammar, syntax, punctuation (in descending flexibility)

Lexicon

- is easiest to handle,
- as it is least controversial in sociolinguistic contexts
- express cultural contexts

Lexical standards

- are established by local → national speech communities
- no discussions about right or wrong, only integrated in Speech Community or not

you need tools for data extraction from Social Media, which offer good and illustrative data,

from images to phrases in context, usage, collocates

2. Close reading of (Schmied EU 2008) article

2 English as a **lingua franca** in a trilingual EU

The proportion of young learners of English is highest in Norway (over 90%) and Sweden (over 70%) but also in Austria (over 90%), Spain (over 80%) and even Italy (over 70%). It is smallest in Germany (and Belgium) with less than 20%. It goes without saying that the Irish Republic and the United Kingdom are specific cases here because they are mother-tongue countries and one would have to include the first foreign language - usually French - and obtain **the usual unsatisfactory results**.

using metaphors in

Lingua Franca English?

Despite all its future potential as an “expression of social identity”, ^{an indigenous type} of “variety” with different but also common formal features which distinguishes it from the British and other standards, this concept of Euro-English is difficult to grasp. In no way is Euro-English today a codified and accepted language variety, which would be necessary for conscious language planning. It is rather a summary term which is used for the English of non-mother-tongue speakers, i.e. a regional *lingua franca*, in somewhat different forms and functions. There is still no established concept or system today. Euro-English is rather a **Yeti**, whom many report about or believe to have seen traces of, but no one has seen its real shape unless it is viewed widely as a complex agglomerate that is not defined and qualified clearly enough.

2. Close reading of article

From a linguistic perspective, there is a wide field of opportunities for **codification**.

For this type of EU jargon, there is even a specific web page **public access denied!** (http://europa.eu/abc/eurojargon/index_en.htm),

which explains cohesion and harmonization in the **narrow EU sense** as well as compounds such as **Eurocrats**, Euroceptic, Euroland or Eurobarometer (as used in this text above). This list contains old and new word combinations, such as **Acquis communautaire** (accidentally the only French new loan word) or two-speed Europe.

use Wayback machine to access "lost" www pages

Euro-English in the widest sense can also be defined as the English of the English-speaking EU citizens as a transnational foreign language variety.

a village of *less* than 200 inhabitants
cognitive categorisations such as the distinction between "count" and "non-count":

informations as well as *experiences*, which is not seen as "countable" in all its meanings either (e.g. "impressive IT experience")

The complex rules of English tag questions can be simplified to the invariable particle *isn't it*, e.g. it seems wrong, *isn't it?*

"borrow a book **to** a friend" not only "from a friend"

from a StE normative perspective
all red parts are wrong
BUT since they do not cause communication problems,
could we accept them as Euro English,
to make language learning easier, focus on real problems?

2. Close reading of article: Euro-English?

Languages, by speakers as percentage of EU population as of February 2020,^[68] based on 2012 survey.^[69]

Official languages	First language	Additional language	Total
English	1%	43%	44%
German	20%	16%	36%
French	14%	16%	30%
Italian	15%	3%	18%
Spanish	9%	8%	17%
Polish	9%	1%	10%
Romanian	6%	0%	6%
Dutch	5%	1%	6%
Hungarian	3%	0%	3%
Portuguese	2%	1%	3%

2. Close reading of article

From a linguistic perspective, there is a wide field of opportunities for **codification**.

The Eurojargon EU Glossary is an ideal resource for students, librarians and others who need easy access to information about the EU.

In addition to providing access to - and information about - the EU Glossary, this site offers an insight into the wide range of documents published by the EU institutions, bodies and agencies, together with selected materials from non-EU sources.

use Wayback machine to access "lost" www pages

Euro-English in the widest sense can also be defined as the English of the English-speaking EU citizens as a transnational foreign language variety.

3. Concepts

Languages of the European Union

Article Talk Read Edit View history Tools

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The European Union (EU) has 24 official languages, of which three – English, French and German – have the higher status of "procedural" languages^[1] of the European Commission (whereas the European Parliament accepts all official languages as working languages)^[2] Irish previously had the lower status of "treaty language" before being upgraded to an official and working language in 2007. However, a temporary derogation was enforced until 1 January 2022. The three procedural languages are those used in the day-to-day workings of the institutions of the EU. The designation of Irish as a "treaty language" meant that only the treaties of the European Union were translated into Irish, whereas Legal Acts of the European Union adopted under the treaties (like Directives and Regulations) did not have to be. Luxembourgish and Turkish, which have official status in Luxembourg and Cyprus, respectively, are the only two official languages of EU member states that are not official languages of the EU. In 2023, the Spanish government requested that its co-official languages Catalan, Basque, and Galician be added to the official languages of the EU.^[3]

The EU asserts that it is in favour of linguistic diversity. This principle is enshrined in the EU Charter of Fundamental rights (art. 22) and in the Treaty on European Union (art. 3(3) TEU). In the EU, language policy is the responsibility of member states, and the EU does not have a common language policy; EU institutions play a supporting role in this field, based on the principle of "subsidiarity"; they promote a European dimension in the member states' language policies. The EU encourages all its citizens to be multilingual; specifically, it encourages them to be able to speak two languages in addition to their native language.^[4] Though the EU has very

Languages of the European Union

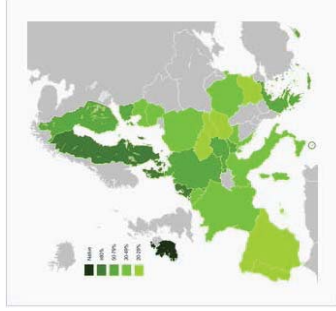


Multilingual sign in the European Parliament

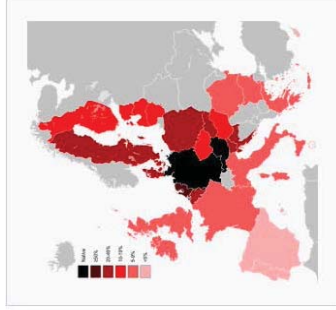
Official	Bulgarian	Croatian	Czech	Danish	Dutch
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3. Concepts

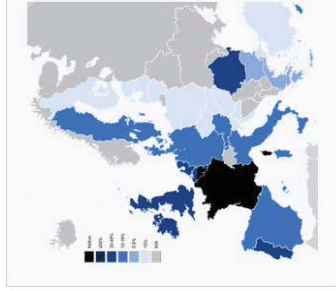
additional language: G East, F South, E North/everywhere (the colour scale for E is higher!) until 2004 French was the alternative, but CEE accession states strengthened English



Knowledge of English.



Knowledge of German.



Knowledge of French. (Note that around 40% of Belgium's population are native French speakers.)

Knowledge of languages in EU27^[69]

Country	Population 15+ ¹	English	French	German	Spanish	Russian	Italian	Polish
European Union (total)	408,879,069	44%	30%	36%	17%	6%	18%	10%
Austria	7,009,827	73%	11%	97%	4%	2%	9%	1%
Belgium ²	8,939,546	38%	81%	23%	5%	1%	4%	0%
Bulgaria	6,537,510	25%	2%	8%	2%	23%	1%	0%
Croatia	3,856,401	49%	4%	34%	2%	4%	14%	0%
Cyprus	660,400	73%	11%	5%	2%	4%	3%	0%
Czech Republic	9,012,443	27%	1%	15%	1%	13%	1%	2%
Denmark	4,561,264	86%	9%	47%	4%	0%	1%	0%
Estonia	945,733	50%	1%	22%	1%	56% ³	0%	0%
Finland	4,440,004	70%	3%	18%	3%	3%	1%	0%
France	47,756,439	39%	97%	8%	13%	1%	5%	1%
Germany	64,409,146	56%	15%	98%	4%	6%	3%	1%
Greece	8,693,566	51%	9%	9%	1%	1%	8%	0%
Hungary	8,320,614	20%	3%	18%	1%	4%	1%	0%
Ireland	3,522,000	99%	17%	7%	4%	1%	1%	3%
Italy	51,862,391	34%	4%	3%	8%	0%	97%	0%

3. Concepts

Lingua franca

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[Tools](#)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*For other uses, see [Lingua franca \(disambiguation\)](#).
Not to be confused with [French language](#).*

A **lingua franca** (/ˈlɪŋɡwɑː ˈfrænkɪʃə/, ^[i] "Frankish tongue"; for plurals see § Usage notes)^[j] also known as a **bridge language**, **common language**, **trade language**, **auxiliary language**, **vehicular language**, or **link language**, is a language systematically used to make communication possible between groups of people who do not share a native language or dialect, particularly when it is a third language that is distinct from both of the speakers' native languages.^[k]

Lingua francas have developed around the world throughout human history, sometimes for commercial reasons (so-called "trade languages" facilitated trade), but also for cultural, religious, diplomatic and administrative convenience, and as a means of exchanging information between scientists and other scholars of different nationalities.^{[l][4]} The term is taken from the medieval Mediterranean Lingua Franca, a Romance-based pidgin language used especially by traders in the Mediterranean Basin from the 11th to the 19th centuries.^[5] A world language—a language spoken internationally and by many people—is a language that may function as a global lingua franca.^[citation needed]

Characteristics [edit]

Any language regularly used for communication between people who do not share a native language is a lingua franca.^[6] Lingua franca is a functional term, independent of any linguistic history or language structure.^[7]

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4. Projects

Whereas the British traditionally call their ministries department (except the Home Office, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Treasury), the other European governments call the equivalents ministry (including Ministry of Interior, Foreign Affairs, Finance for the three terminologically specific British offices mentioned above).

The Standing Conference of the Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs (of the Länder)

appositions to make meanings more explicit (e.g. Ceilidh, the Scottish/Irish popular dance) or the use of **hypernyms** and their **post-modification** through genitives and relative clauses to highlight specific national traditions e.g.

Kyiv, the x of y
Lwiw, which
the Lemberg that lies in Canada....

PACE slogan "un otro mundo es posible"

English is associated with globalisation, so the anti-globalisation, so the anti-avoid to use English!

4. Projects

Deculturising (de-colonializing??) English English terms for neutral Euro-English usage
classic example in British English is
public schools,

which are neither public nor government schools and thus may lead to misunderstanding

independent schools

fee-paying schools

private schools

non-government schools

terms have negative or positive connotations/associations

4. Projects

From a systematic perspective, it is important that all terms are transparent as well as coherent.

They are **transparent** when the individual elements of the nominal group allow the interpreter to guess its functions even if the term is not familiar (in cases such as the Treasury, which is also ambiguous, since it could refer to the Federal Reserves as well as to the Central Bank).

They are **systematic** when a specification like interior is matched by another one like foreign affairs or even exterior.

They are **coherent** when all offices follow the same pattern of using a postmodification introduced by of.

4. Projects

In countries where English is the mother tongue or even the national language, culture-specific terms for institutions are usually not translated. Even in international contexts like universities, the transparent and simplified lingua franca English is only rarely used as a medium of instruction. The awareness of culture-related features of the mother tongue is often less developed than the awareness of **culture-specific features** relating to a foreign language, and such awareness is often not considered necessary.

Deutsche Welle:

The audio material available could also be used to measure the variation in pronunciation in different scales, distinguishing British from American accents, for instance. This could lead to **hot** questions whether the German perspective of international news should be read with an American accent, which may be considered particularly problematic in cases like the Iraq war, where opinions were widely divided and an American accent might have led to assumptions of more American media influence than necessary.

Technische Universität? "Technical University of xy" vs. "yz University of Technology":
place it in tradition: xy=West vs. yz=East/SU

5. Conclusions: take-home message?

no current debates on language issues:

<https://www.europarl.europa.eu/plenary/en/indexsearch.html?query=%22lingua+franca%22>

no codified concept of Euro English, only many individual (mis-)interpretations only anecdotal evidence from the EU parliament: “liberal” meeting on “Prides”

5. Conclusions: 1 recent academic article?



The future of British English in the European Union

What standard will the EU adopt in the post-Brexit era?

Published online by Cambridge University Press: 19 September 2022

Marko Modiano

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Article contents

- Extract
- Introduction
- EU language policy
- The dominance of English in the EU
- Standard British English in the EU
- Language and identity
- Nativization
- Why standard British English?
- Current documentation standards
- Standards for a Francophonie lexica

Extract

In the three years and seven months between the referendum on 23 June 2016 and 31 January 2020, when the UK officially left the European Union, there was much speculation over what status English would have in the EU after the withdrawal of the UK. It is now apparent that English has continued to flourish. This is supported by statistics for Member States which chart the extent to which English is a school subject. Well over 95% of the children in the EU are taught English as a mandatory subject. Official EU figures also show that 38% of the population is proficient in English as a second language, three times more than both French and German (*Spectral Eurobarometer 386: Europeans and their Languages, 2012*). Moreover, although some, such as Danuta Hübner, EMP, wanted to question whether or not English could maintain its status as an official language in the EU, it is now apparent that it will not be possible to remove English in this respect (with changes requiring a unanimous vote in the Council, which Ireland has said it will not support [European Commission, 2016]). (*The Guardian 27 December 2019*). English has also retained its position as one of the three ‘procedural’ or ‘working languages’ alongside French and German. This has taken place despite the fact that without the UK, no Member State has English as its official EU language, and only approximately one percent of EU citizens have English as a mother tongue.

5. Conclusions: article discussion in press?

For Modiano, this is also about power. “Someone is going to have to step forward and say, ‘OK, let’s break our ties with the tyranny of British English and the tyranny of American English.’ And instead say ‘we are competent second-language speakers. This is our language.’”

In some future Europe, a European commissioner might confidently introduce herself to the British prime minister in fluent Euro-English with a smattering of Brussels babble: “Hello, I am coming from the EU. Since 3 years I have competences for language policy and today I will eventually assist at a trilogue on comitology.”

The British-born linguist argued that schoolchildren and other learners across the Continent still want to learn a form of English that is recognized by native speakers. “They don’t want a model that will help them communicate with a professor in Sweden.”

Modiano dismissed Modiano’s activism for Euro-English as being an interesting idea, but an academic one. Another major stumbling block for Modiano is the fact that, in Ireland and Malta, the EU still has two countries where English is an official language, making a concerted shift away from natively-spoken English even less probable.

“We certainly would not want the non-English speaking member states to impose on Ireland a kind of English that Irish people can’t understand,” the EU official said. “... the Commission’s policy of keeping English free from idiomatic flourishes, for the benefit of the bloc’s majority of non-native speakers”

5. Conclusions: ask Large Language Models?

The status of English within the European Union (EU) is unique, reflecting its widespread use as a lingua franca for communication among individuals with different native languages. English holds the status of one of the official languages of the EU, alongside other languages such as French and German. This multilingual approach aims to facilitate effective communication and ensure inclusivity within the diverse linguistic landscape of the member states. The use of English in official EU documents, meetings, and communications underscores its significance as a common means of interaction. However, it is essential to note that **the EU prioritizes multilingualism, with efforts made to maintain the equality of all official languages**. This commitment is exemplified by the provision of translation and interpretation services to enable individuals to engage in EU processes in their preferred languages. In academic and professional contexts, **English often serves as a primary language for research, publications, and international collaborations**. The prominence of English in academia is evident in the widespread use of the language in scholarly publications, conferences, and educational programs. This linguistic landscape reflects the **global influence of English as a language of diplomacy, science, and commerce**. It is crucial to acknowledge that the status of English in the EU is dynamic and subject to ongoing developments influenced by political, social, and cultural factors. As the EU continues to evolve, so too may the role and significance of English within its institutions and member states.

Ask ChatGPT: What is the status of English in the EU? (23/11/16)

= O.K.

5. Conclusions: ask Large Language Models?

Deine Unterhaltungen werden von Prüfern verarbeitet, um die für Bard verwendeten Technologien zu verbessern. Gib also nichts ein, was ein Prüfer nicht sehen oder Google nicht verwenden sollen.

Euro English is a variety of English used as a lingua franca in the European Union. It is characterized by a number of features that distinguish it from other varieties of English, including:

- Lexical differences: ** Euro English uses a number of words and phrases that are not common in other varieties of English, such as "possibility" (instead of "opportunity") and "SMS" (instead of "text").
- Grammatical differences: ** Euro English speakers may drop the third person singular suffix (-s), for example saying "he often call meetings" instead of "he often calls meetings." They may also use the progressive aspect with stative predicates, such as saying "I'm coming from Spain" instead of "I come from Spain."
- Pronunciation differences: ** Euro English speakers may have a number of pronunciation differences from native speakers of English, such as pronouncing the "th" sound as "d" or "v."

Here are 20 examples of Euro English:

1. Possibility** (instead of "opportunity"): "There is a possibility that the meeting will be cancelled."
2. SMS** (instead of "text"): "I sent you an SMS."
3. To take note of** (instead of "to notice"): "I took note of your report."
4. To finalise** (instead of "to finalize"): "We need to finalise the contract."
5. To harmonise** (instead of "to harmonize"): "The EU is trying to harmonise its..."

RUBBUSHI!

Ask Bard: Give me 20 examples of Euro English (23/11/16)

5. Conclusions: ask Large Language Models?

Euro English, often referred to as "Euro English" or "EU English," encompasses linguistic variations that emerge from the interaction of speakers from diverse European linguistic backgrounds within the European Union (EU). While it is not a standardized or official form of English, certain linguistic features and expressions may be commonly observed in EU-related contexts. Here are 20 examples of linguistic elements that may be associated with Euro English:

- **Brussels English:** Refers to English spoken in the context of EU institutions in Brussels.
- **Eurojargon:** Specialized terminology used in EU policy and legal documents.
- **Directivespeak:** The formal, directive style commonly found in EU directives and regulations.
- **Comitology:** Refers to the complex decision-making process within EU committees.
- **Acquis communautaire:** The body of EU laws and regulations that member states must adopt.
- **Subsidiarity:** The principle that decisions should be taken at the most local level possible.
- **European Semester:** The framework for coordinating economic policies among EU member states.
- **Cohesion policy:** Policies aimed at reducing disparities in development among regions.
- **Schengen Area:** The zone comprising EU countries with no border controls between them.
- **Eurospeak:** Informal term for the specific linguistic characteristics of Euro English.

RUBBUSHI!

Ask ChatGPT: Give me 20 examples of Euro English (23/11/16)

5. Conclusions: homework

1. Compare the official translations in Ministries in Ukraine to 2 native and 2 non-native EU member states.
2. (find more!)