

# Supporting Linguistic Diversity in European Psychological Publication Platform

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# Overview

- Questions addressed:
  - Defining the LD problem
  - Is there a LD problem in Europe?
  - What is the real size of the LD problem?
  - How to solve the LD problem in EPPP?

# Language issues in scientific publishing

- English – 95% of all publications listed in the SCI in 1995
- English as a language of science – does it really give everybody equal access?
- English is a common language which obviously makes scientific communication easier
- However, the dominance of English has several major drawbacks

# Monolinguality: Drawbacks

- Biasing citation practices
- Marginalization of peripheral scientists
- Imposing anglophone discursive norms through aggressive gatekeeping
- Dominance of research from English speaking countries
- In sum: *monolinguality limits access to publishing resources for peripheral scientists and leads to distortion of results*

# Linguistic diversity

- A concept from applied linguistics
- Various definitions all targeted at the number of languages spoken in a specific area
- Major trend in applied linguistics, politics and education is to support LD as a valuable asset
- However, LD obviously present a problem for international scientific communication

# Linguistic diversity in Europe

- Europe – 3% of world spoken languages
- In total, about 80 languages are being spoken in Europe...
- Belonging to 10 language families
- Today, EU has 23 official languages

# European language map



# Official languages of the EU

- Bulgarian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hungarian
- Irish
- Italian
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Maltese
- Polish
- Portuguese
- Romanian
- Slovak
- Slovene
- Spanish
- Swedish

# The size of the problem

- There is a LD-problem for EPPP – it can not support all the official languages of the EU, to say nothing about the rest...
- What is the real size of the LD-problem in Europe?
- Eurobarometer 2006 Study, “Europeans and their languages” gives insights in the actual use of languages in Europe

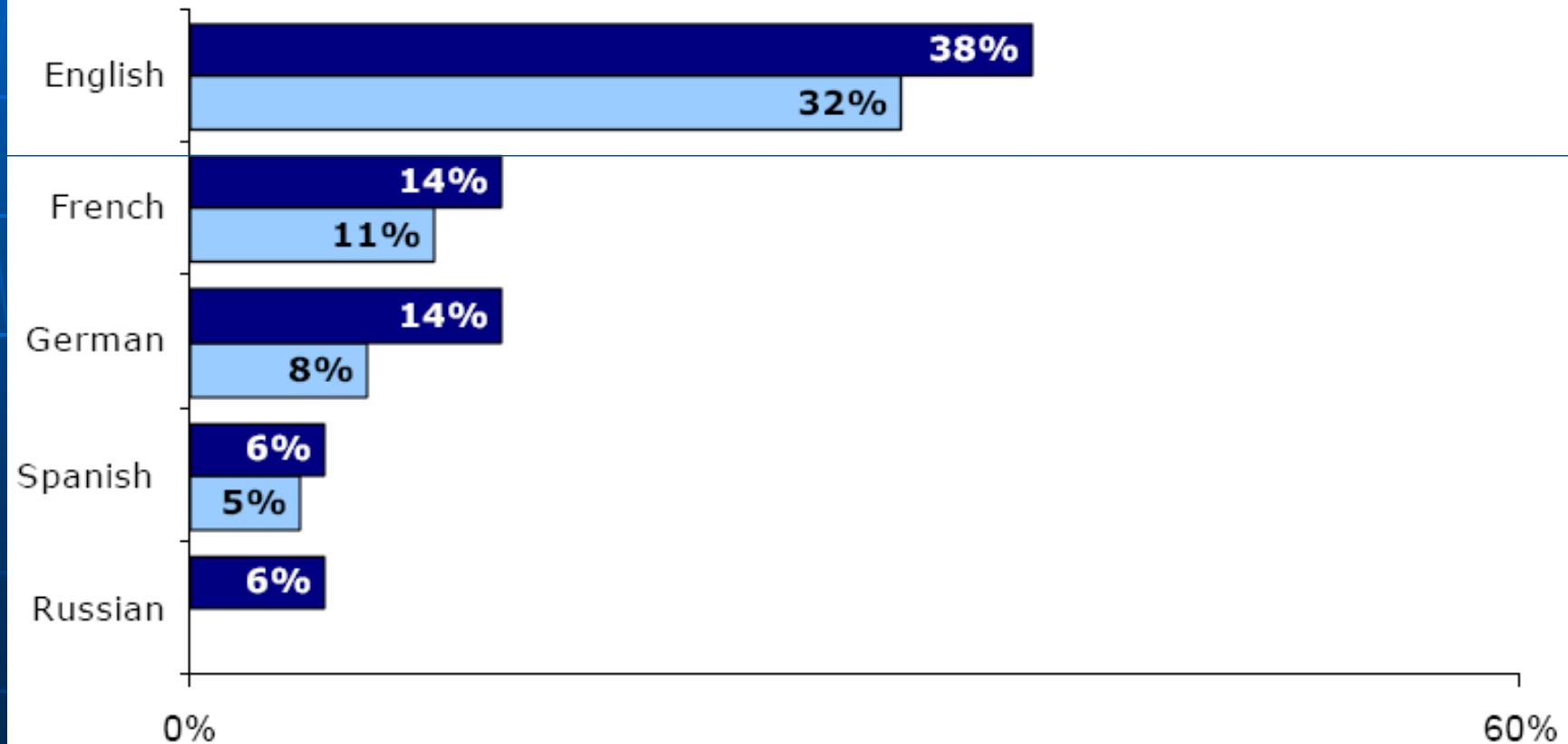
# Data on language use in Europe

- Approx. 90-95% of Europeans has one of the official EU languages as their mother tongue
- “Mother tongue + 2” objective
- Knowledge of foreign languages:
  - At least 1 – 56%
  - At least 2 – 28%
  - At least 3 – 11%
- Profile of a multilingual European
  - Young (under 40)
  - Well-educated
  - Occupation presupposes use of foreign languages
  - Motivated to learn

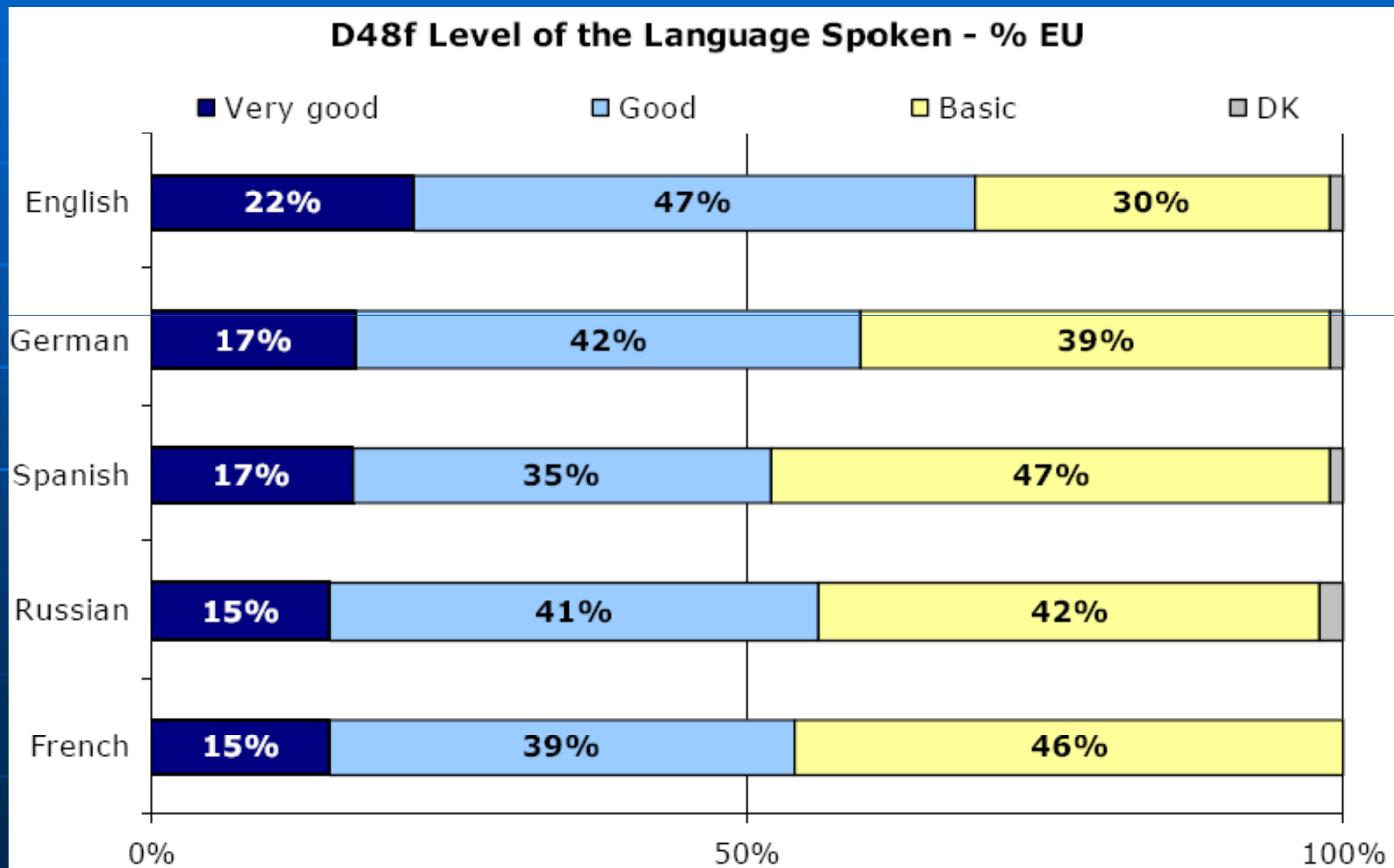
# Most used foreign languages

**D48T Which languages do you know well enough to have a conversation, excluding your mother tongue? - EU25**

□ EB55.1/2001    ■ EB64.3/ 2005



# Proficiency level



# Summary

- There is a well-developed multilingual culture in the EU
- Five core languages spoken in Europe can be identified: *English, German, French, Spanish, Russian*
- Significant proportion of Europeans report sufficient level of mastery for the core languages

# Evaluation criteria

- A multilingual support strategy must be implemented in EPPP to solve the LD problem
- To select a multilingual support strategy, we must decide on
  - What strategies are there?
  - According to what dimensions can the strategies be evaluated?
  - How do we choose the best strategy?

# Evaluation criteria

- Quality – intelligibility and conceptual clarity of the translation output
- Accessibility – overall ease of access to information resulting from translation efforts
- Implementability – ease of realization (time-, resource- and cost-effectiveness)

# Translation strategies - Defining criteria

- Who is the translator
  - Professionals
  - Authors
  - Machine translation
- Target languages
  - EU official languages
  - Subset of core languages
  - Selected languages
- Scope of translation
  - Text + metadata
  - Metadata only

# Translation models - overview

		TRANSLATORS					
		Professionals		Authors		Machine	
		Text+ Meta	Meta	Text+ Meta	Meta	Text+ Meta	Meta
		L A N G U A G E S	EU23	1	2	3	4
Core	7		8	9	10	11	12
Selected	13		14	15	16	17	18

# Strategies ranking

- Evaluate each model on each of the 3 criteria
- 5-point rankings: --, -, 0, +, ++
- Convert rankings to numbers: 1..5
- Weight the dimensions
- Compute a composite score:  $Q \times A \times I$
- Rank the strategies according to the composite score

# Example ranking

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Q	+	+	-	-	0	0	+	+	-	-	0	+	+	+	+	+	0	+
	+	+	-	-			+	+	-			+	+			+		
A	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	+	0	-	-	-	-	-	-
	+		+		+								-	-		-		-
I	-	-	-	-	-	0	-	+	-	-	0	0	0	+	0	+	+	+
	-		-	-					-					+		+	+	+
T	25	40	5	4	15	36	40	60	4	12	36	36	30	20	24	20	24	16

Thank you!