Civil Society Platform of the Structured Dialogue with the European Commission

'Promotion of Multilingualism'

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Background Information

The Civil Society Platform to promote Multilingualism was launched by the European Commission in October 2009. Since then 29 selected member organisations*, active in the fields of culture, non-formal and informal education systems and media, interested in issues connected to multilingualism with a trans-national or European-wide dimension have delivered a set of recommendations to EU policy makers in order to improve multilingualism policy on EU, Members State and regional level.

Mobilising Civil Society to Promote Multilingualism : *Poliglotti4.eu*

The ongoing EC co-funded *Poliglotti4.eu* project, to which nine of the platform members have committed, is intended to set up an online Language Observatory until December 2012, designed to capture good practice and to conduct research in the following areas: local and regional provision of adult language training; language policy and practice in public services; early language learning. To ensure the dialogue with policy makers, stakeholders and the civil society, two conferences will be organised to disseminate the project results and thus guarantee the influence and participation of civil society in the European decision-making process.

The project *Poliglotti4.eu* is using art, culture and media to promote multilingualism addressing four major target groups: actors in non-formal education systems and social services, policy makers and grass-roots civil society organisations. In order to raise awareness of the importance of multilingualism in society at large, the project *Poliglotti4.eu* will also constitute a network of Ambassadors who are either well-known and multilingual, or particularly knowledgeable and active in the field of multilingualism in civil society. The website www.poliglotti4.eu is currently under construction.

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*Platform member organisations are: **ACT** - Association of Commercial Television in Europe, **ALTE** - Association of Language Testers in Europe, **CEATL** - Conseil européen des associations de traducteurs littéraires, **CEPI** - European Coordination of Independent Producers, **CMFE** - Community Media Forum Europe, **Culturelink** Network, **EAEA** - European Association for the Education of Adults, **EAT** - European Association of Terminology, **EBLUL** - Eurolang Brussels, **ECA** - European Council of Artists, **ECSWE** - European Council for Steiner Waldorf Education, **EEE-YFU** - Youth for Understanding, **EEU** - European Esperanto Union, **EFIL** - European Federation for Intercultural Learning, **EFNIL** - European Federation of National Instituts for Language, EfVET - The European Forum for Vocational Education and Training, **ETC** - European Theatre Convention, **EWC** - European Writers' Council, **EPC** - European Publishers Council, **Club of Madrid, EUNIC** - European Union National Institutes for Culture: **BC** - British Council, **DKK** - Det Danske Kulturinstitut, **GI -** Goethe-Institut, **EUROCLIO** - European Association of History Educators, **FEP** - Federation of European Publishers, **FUEN** - Federal Union of European Nationalities, **ISSA** - International Step by Step Association, **MERCATOR** - Network of Language Diversity, **Literature Across Frontiers**, **RECIT** - Réseau européen des centres internationaux de traduction littéraire, **YUSTE** - European Academy of Yuste Foundation

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