Language diversity in a migration context

May, 13-17, 2019

- What are the most asked questions about language in communication?

- Why is language a problem?

- Is my language (not) important?

Master a language to master citizenship rights

The more languages the more english?

The constellation of languages in Europe actually functions as a descending hierarchy (Extra & Gorter, 2008; Nic Craith, 2006) with the following ranking of categories:

- English as *lingua franca (language of wider use)* for transnational communication;
- national or official state languages of European countries;
- regional minority (RM) languages across Europe;
- immigrant minority (IM) languages across Europe.

- Most countries fail to support or value what some described as the ‘gold mine’ of immigrant languages.

- At a time when the need for an ever wider range of language skills is needed, this linguistic capital is generally neglected.

- In many countries a lack of understanding about teaching the national language to newcomers is also reported. The second class status of migrant languages also arose in relation to issues of identity and social cohesion.

EDUCATION

‘Migrant,’ ‘Immigrant,’ ‘Community’ languages should be explicitly recognised through appropriate instruments at European level. They should be eligible for more funding support in national and European policies. The offer of languages other than the national language(s) should be adapted so that all students, regardless of their background, have the opportunity to learn the languages of their community, from pre-primary to university education.

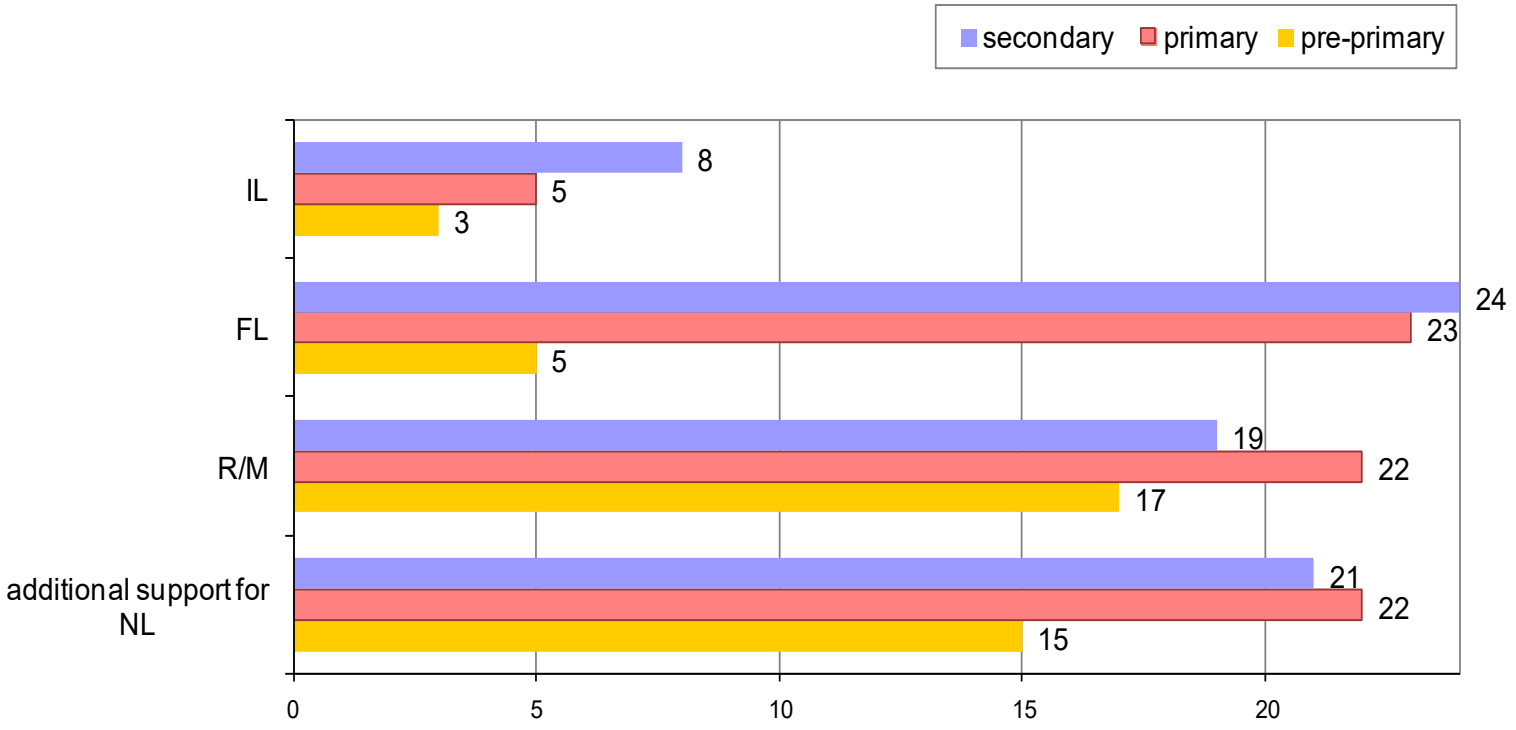
Where in-school support is not possible for less commonly spoken languages, education authorities should provide financial support for language learning outside of school and find ways to recognise the value of all these languages in the daily life of the school. Language skills should be developed for more inclusive societies and teaching should reflect the diversity of the student population. (LRE, 2012)

RANGE OF LANGUAGES IN EDUCATION

regional and minority languages

Language types offered in education

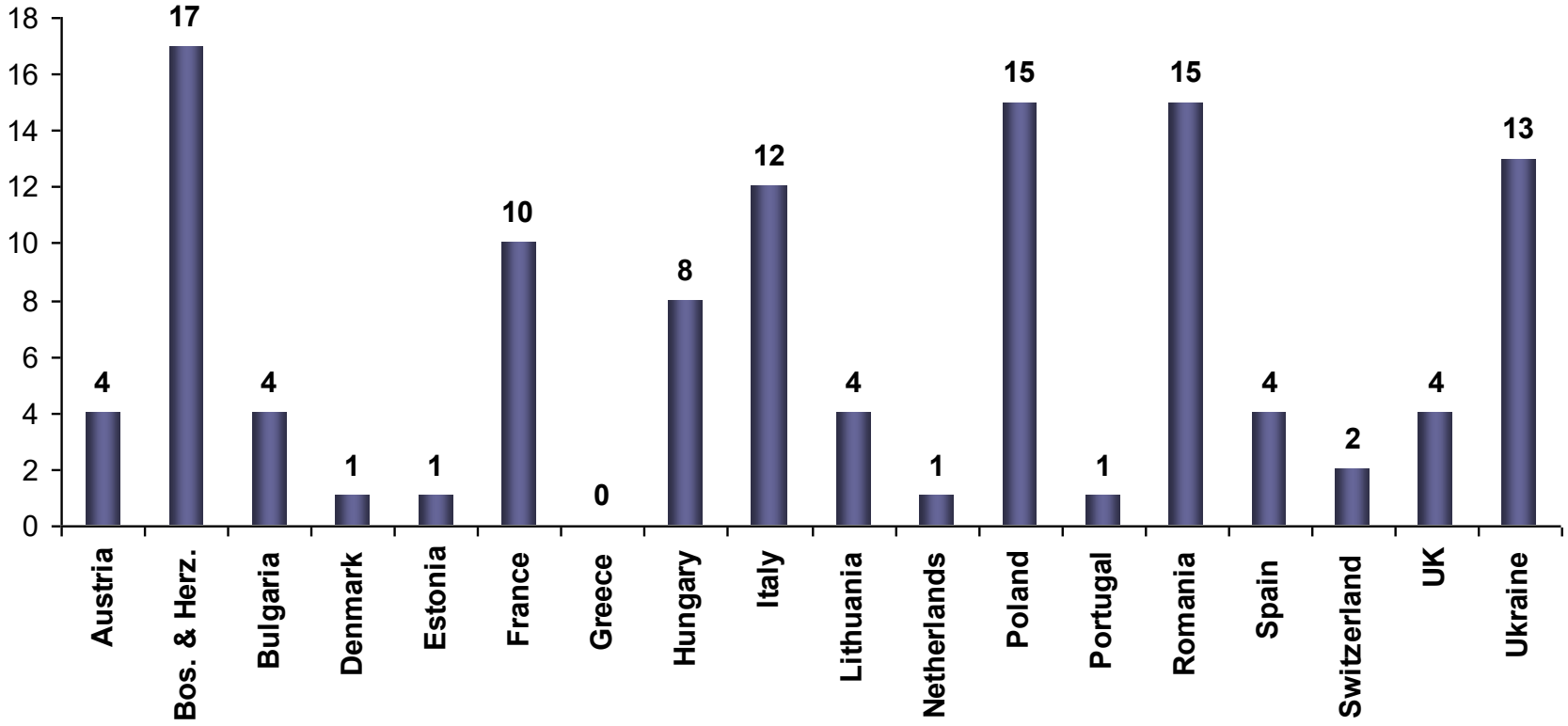
(Value = N of countries/regions out of 24)



- FL in pre-primary: Bulgaria in top range position of widest choice
- IL in pre-primary: Switzerland in top range position, followed by Denmark and Spain
- IL in primary: Switzerland again in top range position, followed by Denmark, Spain, Austria and France

Erasmus+ peacemakers

N of R/M languages officially provided in education in 18 countries



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RANGE OF LANGUAGES IN EDUCATION

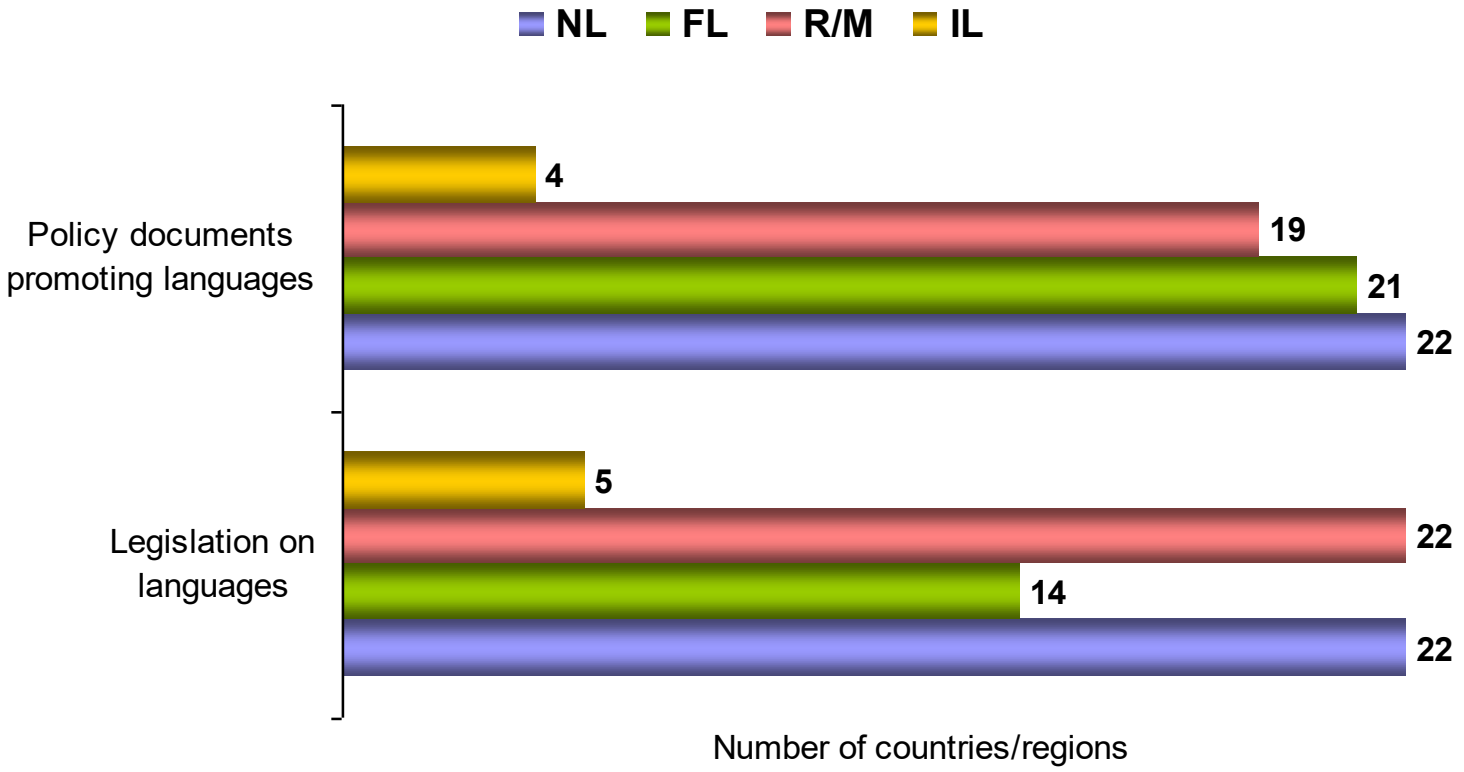
immigrant languages

Immigrant language provision

Pre – primary education	Primary Education	Secondary Education
Denmark **Spain** **Switzerland** **(Cantons Zürich & Geneva)**	**Austria** **Denmark** **France** **Spain** **Switzerland** **(Cantons Zürich & Geneva)**	**Austria** **Denmark** **England** **Estonia** **France** **Netherlands** **Scotland** **Switzerland**

LANGUAGE LEGISLATION & POLICY DOCUMENTS

Language legislation and official language policy documents
(Value = N of countries/regions out of 24)



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Obrigado, Thank you

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