

META NET

META – Multilingual Europe Technology Alliance

Georg Rehm, Aljoscha Burchardt, Felix Sasaki

georg.rehm@dfki.de, aljoscha.burchardt@dfki.de, felix.sasaki@dfki.de

German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI GmbH)

<http://www.meta-net.eu>

About META-NET

Recognising Europe's exceptional demand and opportunities, 60 leading research centres in 34 European countries joined forces in META-NET (<http://www.meta-net.eu>), a European Network of Excellence dedicated to the technological foundations of a multilingual, inclusive, innovative and reflective European society and partially supported through a total of four projects funded by the European Commission (EC): T4ME (Feb. 1, 2010 until Jan. 31, 2013), CESAR, METANET4U and META-NORD (Feb. 1, 2011 until Jan. 31, 2013).

META-NET assembled the Multilingual Europe Technology Alliance (META) with more than 700 organisations and experts representing multiple stakeholders. In addition, META-NET signed collaboration agreements and memoranda of understanding with more than 40 other projects and initiatives in the field such as CLARIN (Common Language Resources and Technology Infrastructure, <http://www.clarin.eu>) and FLareNet (Fostering Language Resources Network, <http://www.flarenet.eu>). Working together with numerous organisations and experts from a variety of fields, META-NET has developed a Strategic Research Agenda (<http://www.meta-net.eu/sra>). Our recommendations for Multilingual Europe 2020, as specified in the SRA, are based on a thorough planning process involving more than one thousand experts.

Since 2012, two new projects have been enlarging the META community in specific areas. QTLaunchPad (<http://www.qt21.eu/launchpad>) is an EC-funded initiative dedicated to overcoming quality barriers in machine and human translation and in language technologies. It is preparing a large-scale translation quality initiative for Europe. One of the central outcomes of QTLaunchPad is a new, modular system for translation quality assessment called Multidimensional Quality Metrics (MQM).

MultilingualWeb-LT (<http://www.w3.org/International/multilingualweb/lt/>) is defining metadata for web content (mainly HTML5), that facilitate interaction with multilingual technologies and localisation processes. Within the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C), a dedicated standard called Internationalization Tag Set (ITS) 2.0 is being defined. Among others, ITS 2.0 will provide the preferred means to represent MQM annotations in web content.

These projects demonstrate that META involves an enormous range of communities, from core language technology to localisation service providers and the web community at large. META-FORUM 2013 event (Sep. 19/20, Berlin, see <http://www.meta-forum.eu>) will play a key role in extending our technology alliance even further in order to be prepared for the upcoming funding programmes Horizon 2020 and Connecting Europe Facility (CEF).