

# **European Day Of Languages**

## **26<sup>th</sup>, September, 2016**





## WHAT IS THE EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES?

The European Day of Languages (EDL) is held on 26<sup>th</sup> September every year to celebrate the diversity of languages in Europe. It is an initiative of the Council of Europe and began in 2001.

### The Day aims to:

- To alert
- To promote
- To increase
- To encourage



obrigado

Dank U

Merci

mahalo

Köszí

спасибо

Grazie

Thank  
you

mauruuru

Takk

Gracias

Dziękuję

Děkuju

danke

Kiitos

# **WHO IS THE EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES FOR?**

The Council of Europe hopes that this day will be celebrated both by authorities in its member states and potential partners at the following levels:

**Among  
policy-makers**

**Among the  
general public**

**In the  
voluntary  
sector**





**26 September 2016 marked the 15th anniversary of the European Day of Languages (EDL) celebrated at the Council of Europe and throughout its 47 member states, including Ireland. So, there are some interesting facts about languages used in this country.**

- There are a number of languages used in Ireland. But English is the main language since the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Also the Irish is used in the whole country.
- In the Republic of Ireland, under the Constitution of Ireland, both languages have official status.
- A growing number of pupils are through Irish and English.
- Most Irish can speak at least two languages.









# INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT GAELIC (The Irish Language) Gaeilge

- Gaeilge, Irish, or “Irish Gaelic” is the national and first official language of Ireland, as well as one of the official languages of the European Union.
- When we say Irish (the language) we don’t mean our accent in English – we mean a language on a completely different branch of the European language family tree.





## Irish to be given full official EU language status in 2016

Though it has been an official language of the EU since 2007, Irish will now be gradually upgraded to a full working language of the European institutions.



THE END