

RESOLUTION 2024-05

Association Plataforma per la Llengua

The Delegates of the Member Organisations of the Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN) adopted the following resolution at their Assembly of Delegates in Husum/Hüsem, Germany on 21 September 2024:

Catalan – an official EU language

The Catalan language is an exception in the European Union. It is the 13th language of the Union in terms of the number of speakers, but it does not have the same recognition as many of the other European languages with fewer speakers. This lack of recognition is unusual, considering the language’s significance in terms of its number of speakers, economic impact, and cultural importance.

Since 1987, various regional governments and civil society organizations have persistently advocated for the official status of the Catalan language in the EU. This historical and continuous effort, a remarkable consensus among civil society, and a campaign carried out by Plataforma per la Llengua called “Say Yes!”¹, led the Spanish State to request that Catalan and other co-official languages in Spain be recognized as official in the EU, and also allowing, for the first time, co-official languages to be spoken in the national Parliament.

The official status of Catalan is not a trivial matter. It serves as a crucial legal and political instrument to safeguard small and medium-sized languages, as well as minority languages, against the mounting pressures of globalization and the rapid advancements in new technologies and forms of communication. Spain’s request has yet to reach a vote, and it is still on the table. It is of great importance that member states are committed to taking this step to recognize diversity and improve citizens’ rights.

The Assembly of Delegates of FUEN calls on the member states of the European Union:

- to vote in favour of Catalan becoming an official EU language.

¹ <https://catalaoficial.eu/en/> On this website, you will find more information on this matter, frequently asked questions and arguments on why member states should say yes to Catalan becoming an official EU language.