Media sign language interpreting (SLI)

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ENACT project pre-conference workshop on media accessibility:
state of the art and future challenges.

Barcelona 19-03-2025

Traditional media SLI access services

- Interpretation of the audio contents
- Hearing signer
- Weekly news live broadcast
- Open signing on programme
- No standard techniques

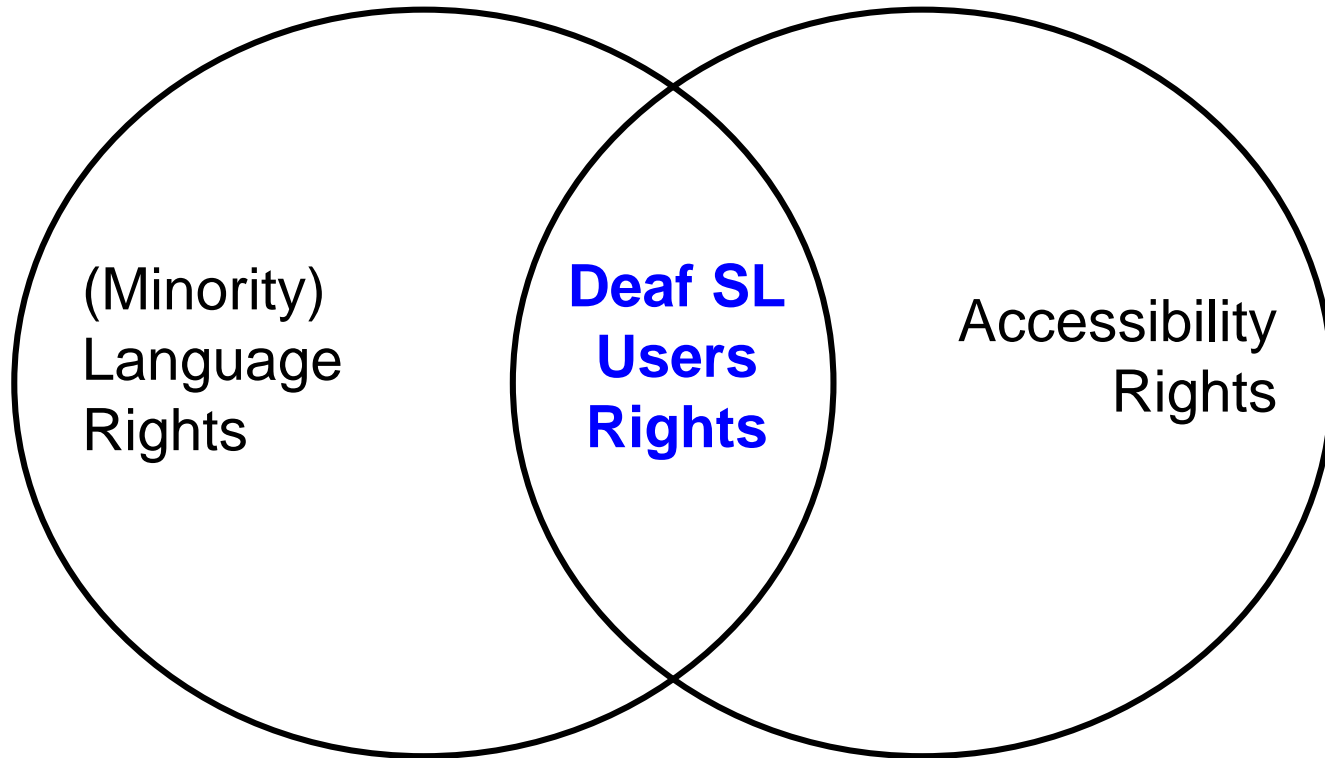@rcg_tv   Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetuer adipiscing elit.

Traditional targeted SLI access service users

- Deaf
- Fluent signers
- Adult
- Interested in news (educated?)
- Able to understand news contents
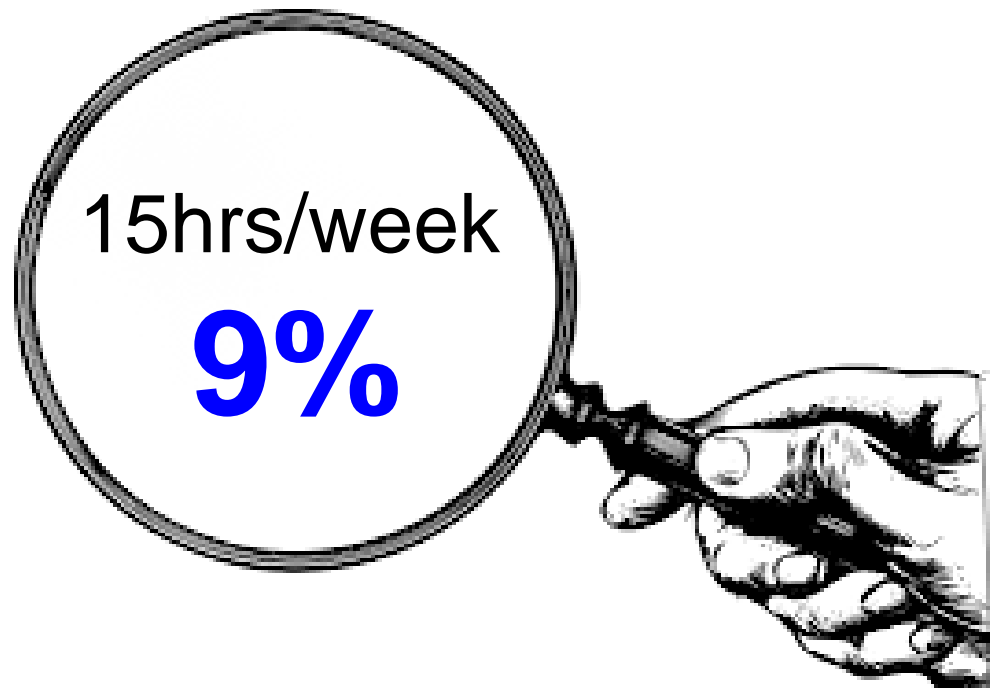- No full access from subtitles (illiterate?)

Suma
amistats

Challenge 0: Understanding the intersectionality

(Minority) Language Rights

Deaf SL Users Rights

Accessibility Rights

Challenge 1: Quantity

- Public media providers gradually increasing quantitative obligations
- Mapping 'Proportionate measures'

Ley 13/2022, de 7 de julio,
General de Comunicación Audiovisual
(Spain)

15hrs/week

9%

Challenge 1: Quantity

- SLI hours per week in European public providers

TOP 5

1	Portuguese Sign Language	76:12'
2	Polish Sign Language	47:40'
3	Czech Sign Language	23:14'
4	Norwegian Sign Language	18:02'
5	**Spanish Sign Language**	**15:15'**

BOTTOM 5

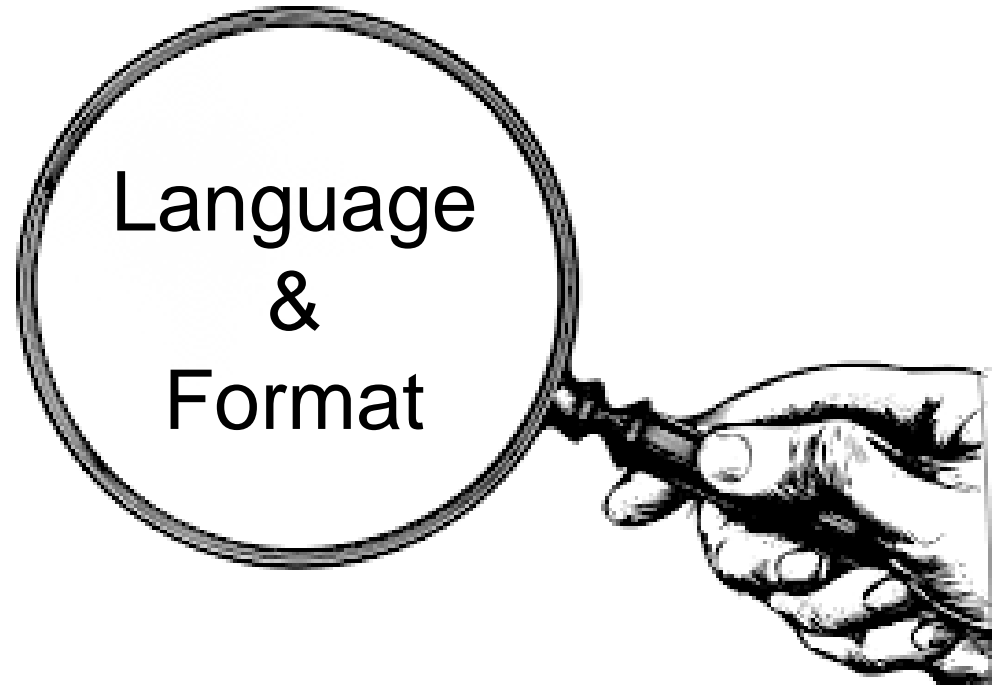|		
39	Hungarian Sign Language	0:50'
40	Greek Sign Language	0:50'
41	Estonian Sign Language	0:49'
42	Finnish Sign Language	0:45'
43	Belarusian Sign Language	0:25'

Challenge 2: Quality

❌ Lack of research-based guidelines
❌ Lack of standardisation
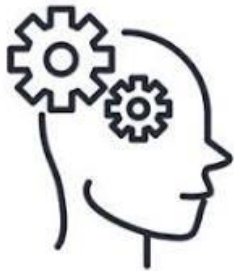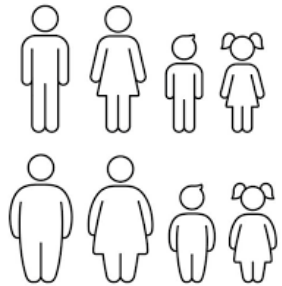
Minimum quality standards

- Scientific-based guidance
- Interest groups
- User organisations

Language
&
Format

Challenge 2: Quality

SLI needs to be:

- Accessible
- Inclusive
- For all!

Challenge 3: Not being left behind!

- Invest in sign language technologies
- Signing avatars (language synthesis)
- Explore AI applications
- Transferability to less researched SL

Sign Language and Artificial Intelligence: Ethical Aspects

Organized by the chair
«Language, Technology and Accessibility»

Sources

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