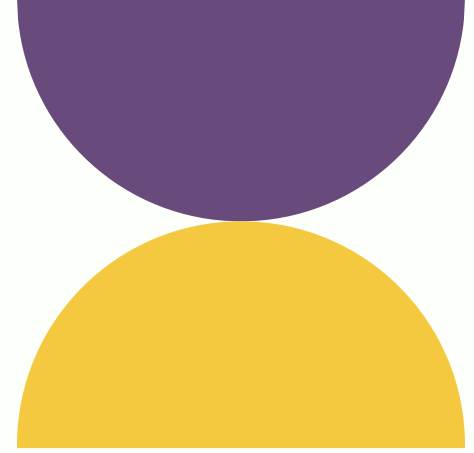


# Easy-to-understand language at RTV Slovenia and beyond: Rethinking access to information

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RTV Slovenia



# RTV Slovenija & Access Services



RTV Slovenija is a national public service media organization committed to accessibility for all audiences.

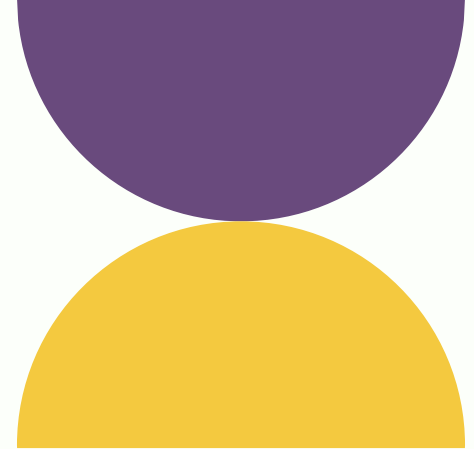
## Access Services Provided:

- Sign language interpretation
- Subtitles for the deaf and hard-of-hearing (pre-prepared, live, automatic)
- Audio description
- Audio subtitles
- News in easy-to-understand language

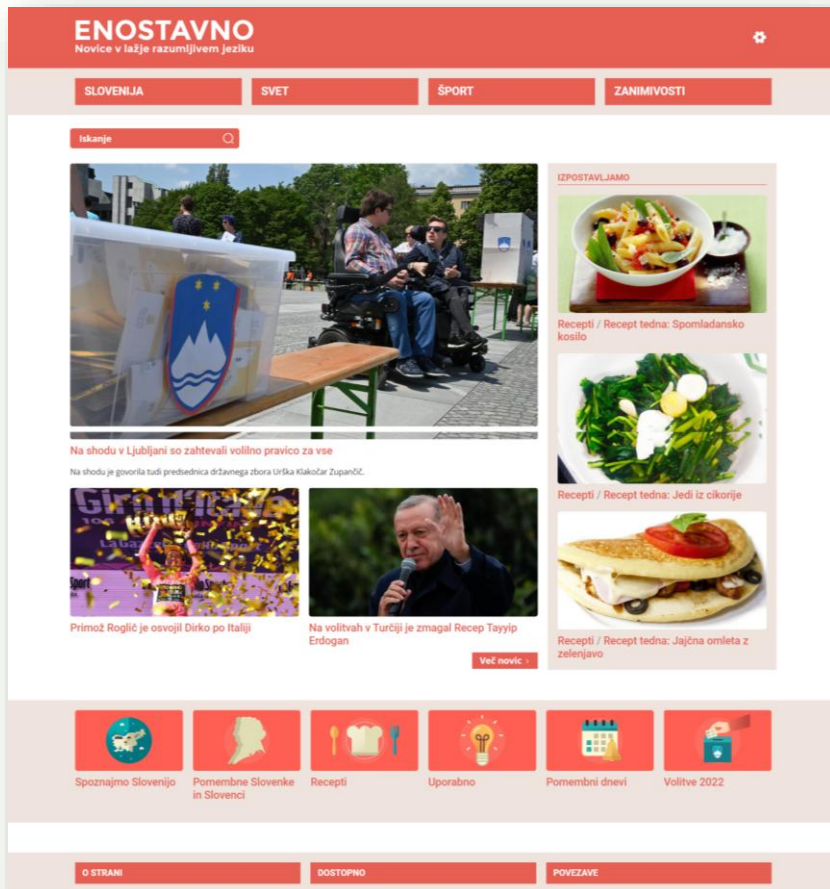
# Easy-to-understand (E2U) news?

Easy-to-understand language is „any language variety which enhances comprehensibility.“ (ISO/IEC 23859:2023)

- **Easy Language** is the most simplified variety addressed to persons with reading comprehension difficulties.
- **Plain Language** is a modality addressed to non-specialised standard readers which makes sure that the wording, structure and design are so clear that the intended readers “can easily find what they need, understand what they find, and use that information”.



# Current services in E2U at RTV SLO

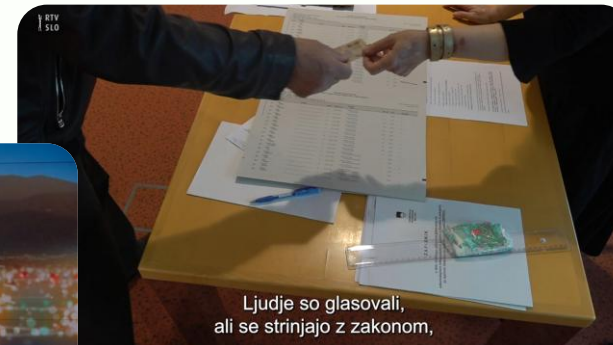


## News portal in easy-to-understand language

- Launched in 2020 as a weekly service
- Expanded to daily service in 2021
- One-third of content focuses on Slovenian current affairs
- Includes coverage of elections and referendums
- Recipes, trivia like important Slovene people, and travel tips for Slovenia

# Behind the scenes (E2U at RTVSLO)

- Producing pilots in different AV formats;
- Developing work processes for different audio and video formats.
- Gathering feedback from target groups to ensure clarity and understandability.



# Research and testing with users at RTV SLO (ongoing)



## What have we learned so far?

- Not the same rules as for easy-to-understand text
- Speech slightly slower, but not too slow
- Stable rhythm & trained voice talent matters
- Simple words, short sentences
- One topic at a time, clear structure with division
- Visuals and short on-screen text support key points
- Explain only what's essential; some found textual E2U explanations in AV format laughable

# Easy-to-understand news in Europe

Overview of European countries that produce news in Easy Language, available across various platforms such as online articles, TV broadcasts, radio segments, and printed publications.

Austria, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Italy, Latvia, the Netherlands, Norway, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom.

Source: Handbook of Easy Languages in Europe (Frank & Timme, 2021.  
Eds. Camilla Lindholm and Ulla Vanhatalo) & the ENACT project



# ENACT Project (2024–2026)

## Why it matters

Many people across Europe have difficulty understanding traditional news language.

## What ENACT does

- Brings together experts from multiple EU countries
- Surveys what's been done already and identifies the most effective methods for producing news in E2U
- Develops guidelines for accessible news in audiovisual media and creates an online hub with examples for general public and experts





# ENACT Project (2024–2026)

## Who benefits

- People with intellectual disabilities or limited language skills
- Older adults, children, and young people
- Anyone who prefers clearly structured information

## Core principle

Access to understandable information is essential for free opinion-forming and inclusive democracy.

