MULTILINGUAL CERN - A PROPOSAL

THE CERN CONVENTION

- “Done at Paris, this first day of July, 1953, **in the English and French languages**, both texts being equally authoritative, in a single original…deposit in the archives of the UNESCO…”

CONTENT

- Bilingualism?
- Is there a need for more languages?
- How does CERN handle translations today?
- How many languages?
- What should be translated?
- Looking at other Organizations
- Conclusion

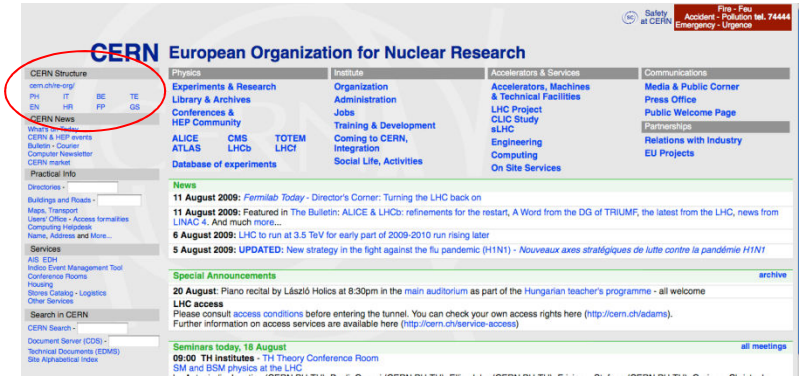
BILINGUALISM?

3 $\Rightarrow$ **Council Session** (English, French, German; since 1978)

1 $\Rightarrow$ **Gap** between Physicists (EN) and Technicians / Secretaries / Fire Department (FR)

? $\Rightarrow$ **Outreach** / **Communication**: Variety

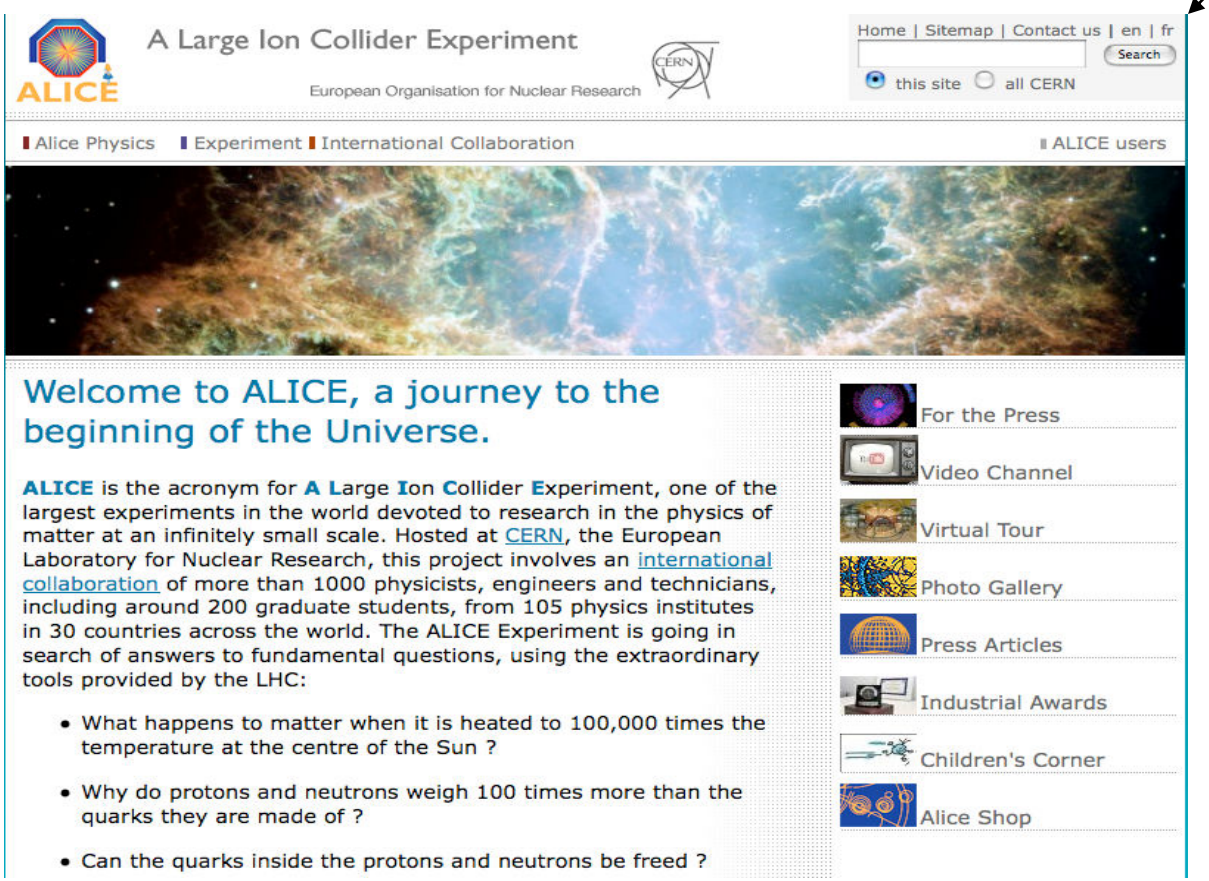
DEPARTMENT SITES IN ENGLISH



EXPERIMENTAL SITES IN ENGLISH

http://aliceinfo.cern.ch/Public/Welcome.html

FAKE!



LANGUAGE JUNGLE FOR OUTREACH

Catalan, Norwegian

No French

**Translations are done on request,
usually by CERN physicists in addition to their jobs,
by the ECCPN or by volunteers…**

CERNland

http://cern.ch/public-old/

- Tiny part of old cern.ch in German
- Educational program in Spanish

A NEED FOR MORE LANGUAGES?

A NEED FOR MORE LANGUAGES?

INSIDE:

- EN / FR ⇔ can't close the gap

OUTSIDE - 3 AUDIENCES:

→ Scientific Community: EN

→ Journalists: FR (local) / EN (int), but…
(EPPCN: pr in advance; frequently insufficient capacity)

→ Public (teachers, visitors, children..): more!

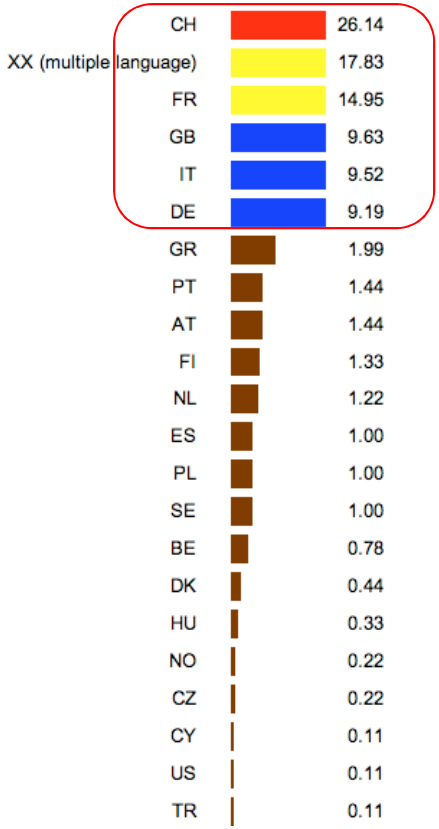
Visitors

Summary

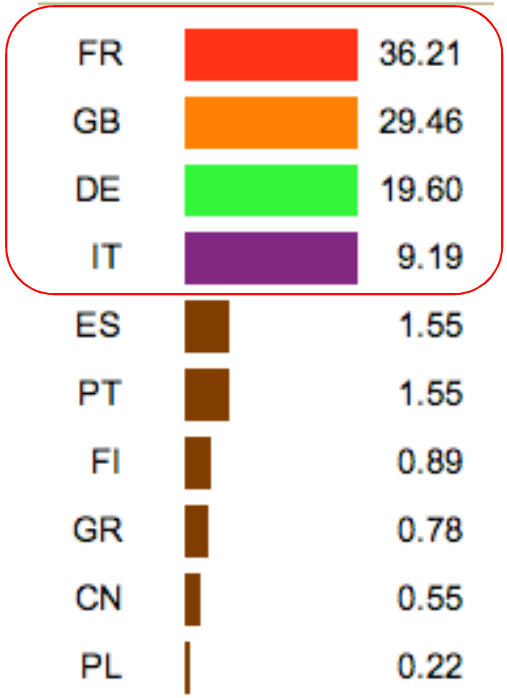
Visits for the period: 903

Schools for the period: 364 / 40.31%
Visitors for the period: 23,693

% of visits from each country



% each language



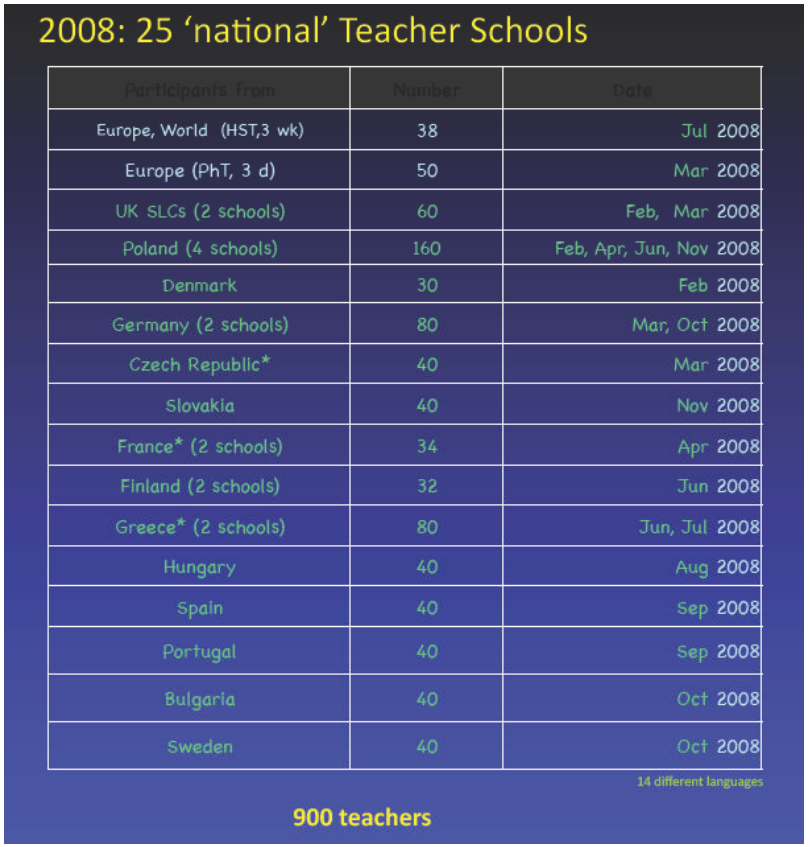
Teachers

Poland: 160

Germany: 80

Greece: 80

14 languages



2008: 25 'national' Teacher Schools

Participants from	Number	Date
Europe, World (HST,3 wk)	38	Jul 2008
Europe (PhT, 3 d)	50	Mar 2008
UK SLCs (2 schools)	60	Feb, Mar 2008
Poland (4 schools)	160	Feb, Apr, Jun, Nov 2008
Denmark	30	Feb 2008
Germany (2 schools)	80	Mar, Oct 2008
Czech Republic*	40	Mar 2008
Slovakia	40	Nov 2008
France* (2 schools)	34	Apr 2008
Finland (2 schools)	32	Jun 2008
Greece* (2 schools)	80	Jun, Jul 2008
Hungary	40	Aug 2008
Spain	40	Sep 2008
Portugal	40	Sep 2008
Bulgaria	40	Oct 2008
Sweden	40	Oct 2008

14 different languages

900 teachers

HOW MANY LANGUAGES?

HOW MANY LANGUAGES?

i.) All 20 member states = **17 languages**

$\Rightarrow$ Best community picture
$\Rightarrow$ Looking at other Organizations: nearly impossible

HOW MANY LANGUAGES?

ii.) **3** official Council **languages**:



⇒ already a Council language
⇒ spoken in 3 member states
= some 100 million people
⇒ Germany paying most

⇒ Italy and Spain: we, too!

HOW MANY LANGUAGES?

iii.) **5** most important **languages** at CERN:

⇒ Italy is disproportional represented
⇒ Spanish an important world language

⇒ 5 languages representing > 75% budget
⇒ key languages spoken inside CERN and in the surrounding of host states

HOW MANY LANGUAGES?

iv.) …add **Polish** as language no. 6:

⇒ open CERN to Eastern Europe
⇒ looking at amount of people

HOW MANY LANGUAGES?

v.) Looking at **important world languages**:



or


⇒ Non-Member States
⇒ More complicate
⇒ Member States: no!

HOW MANY LANGUAGES?

vi.) English and translation machine?

⇒ sensitive issue
⇒ wouldn't trust

HOW MANY LANGUAGES?

iii.) 5 most important languages at CERN!

⇒ Italy is disproportional represented
⇒ Spanish is an important world language
⇒ 5 languages represent > 75% budget
⇒ Key languages spoken in the surrounding of host states

(**ii.) 3 official Council languages**)

⇒ If CERN wants to start with one translation

LANGUAGE PERSONS (LP)

• just for “outside” (outreach/communication)
⇒ no full-time translator (John Pym, TS)

• determine / hire LP (⇔ EPPCN) inside CERN / CG

Job:
• **6** months: to translate / edit key websites / key brochures… (“full-time”)
• later: “up-dates” / “important issues”.. (1/2)

…and native supervisors for all other languages

WHAT SHOULD BE TRANSLATED?

Some examples…

KEY WEBSITES =

all public should know about CERN and PP

approx.
150 pages

NEW WEBSITE WITH CMS

PRESS RELEASES:

≈ 15 a year / LP / - errors + captivation

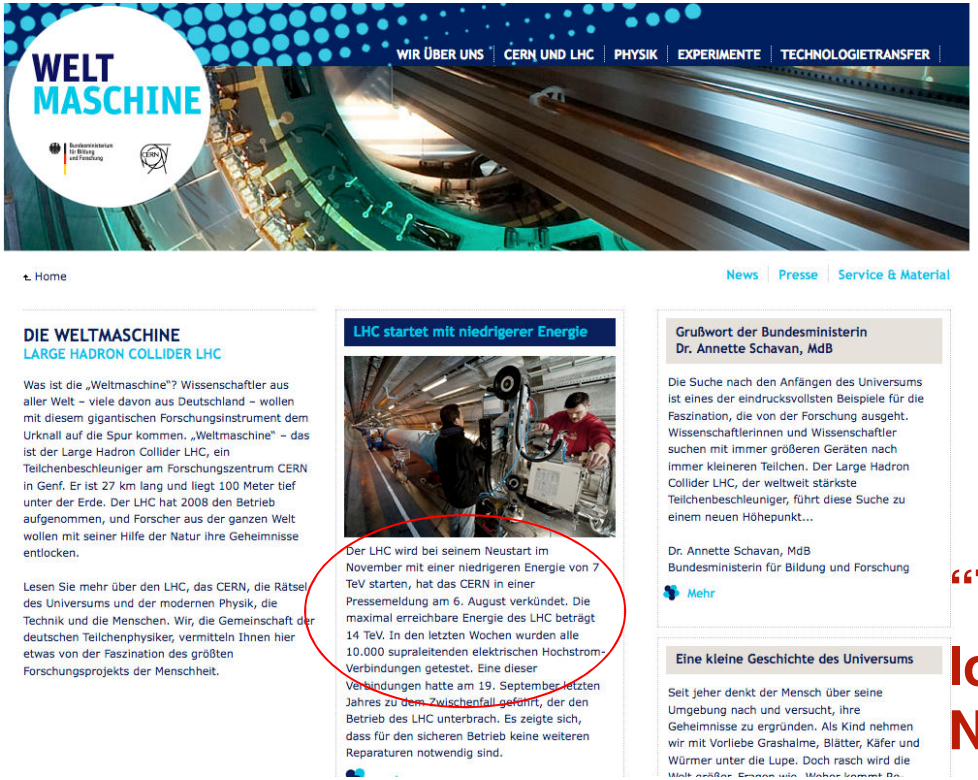
LHC to run at 3.5 TeV for early part of 2009-2010 run rising later

PR13.09
06.08.2009

Geneva, 6 August 2009. CERN's[1] Large Hadron Collider will initially run at an energy of 3.5 TeV per beam when it starts up in November this year. This news comes after all tests on the machine's high-current electrical connections were completed last week, indicating that no further repairs are necessary for safe running.

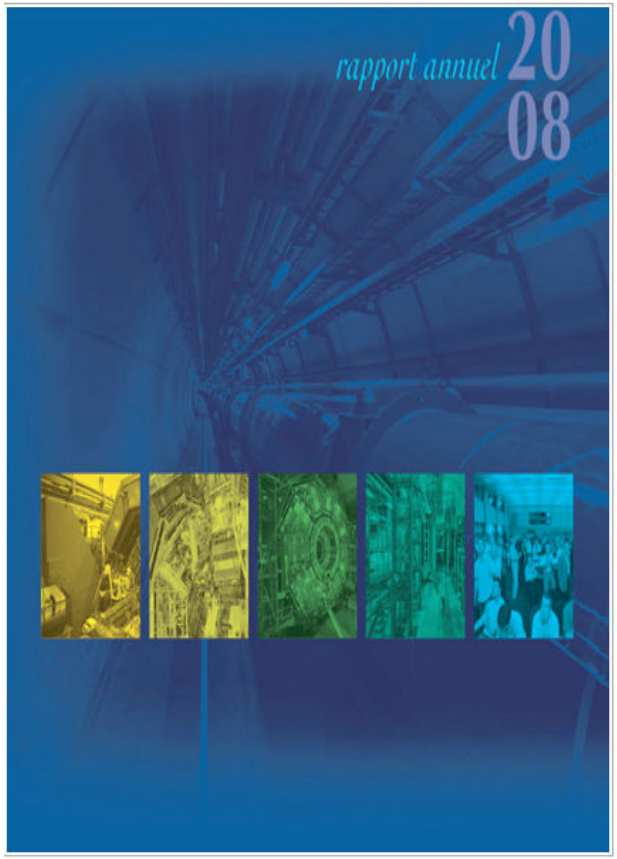
"We've selected 3.5 TeV to start," said CERN's Director General, Rolf Heuer, "because it allows the LHC operators to gain experience of running the machine safely while opening up a new discovery region for the experiments."

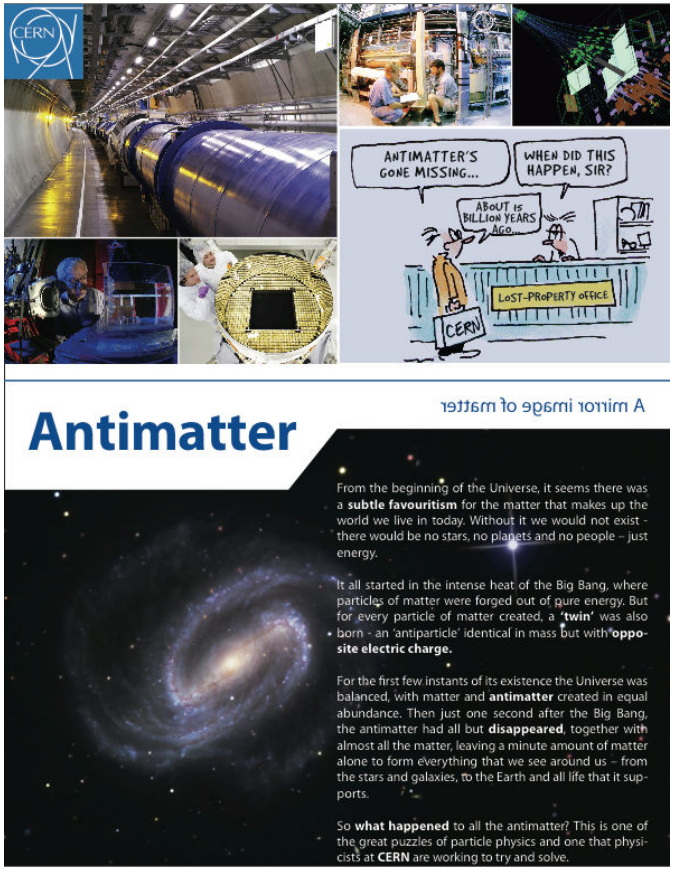
Example of “external translation” of the August, 6th press release



“The LHC will run with a lower energy of 7 TeV in November… The maximum possible energy will be 14 TeV.”

ANNUAL REPORT:
summaries in more languages!





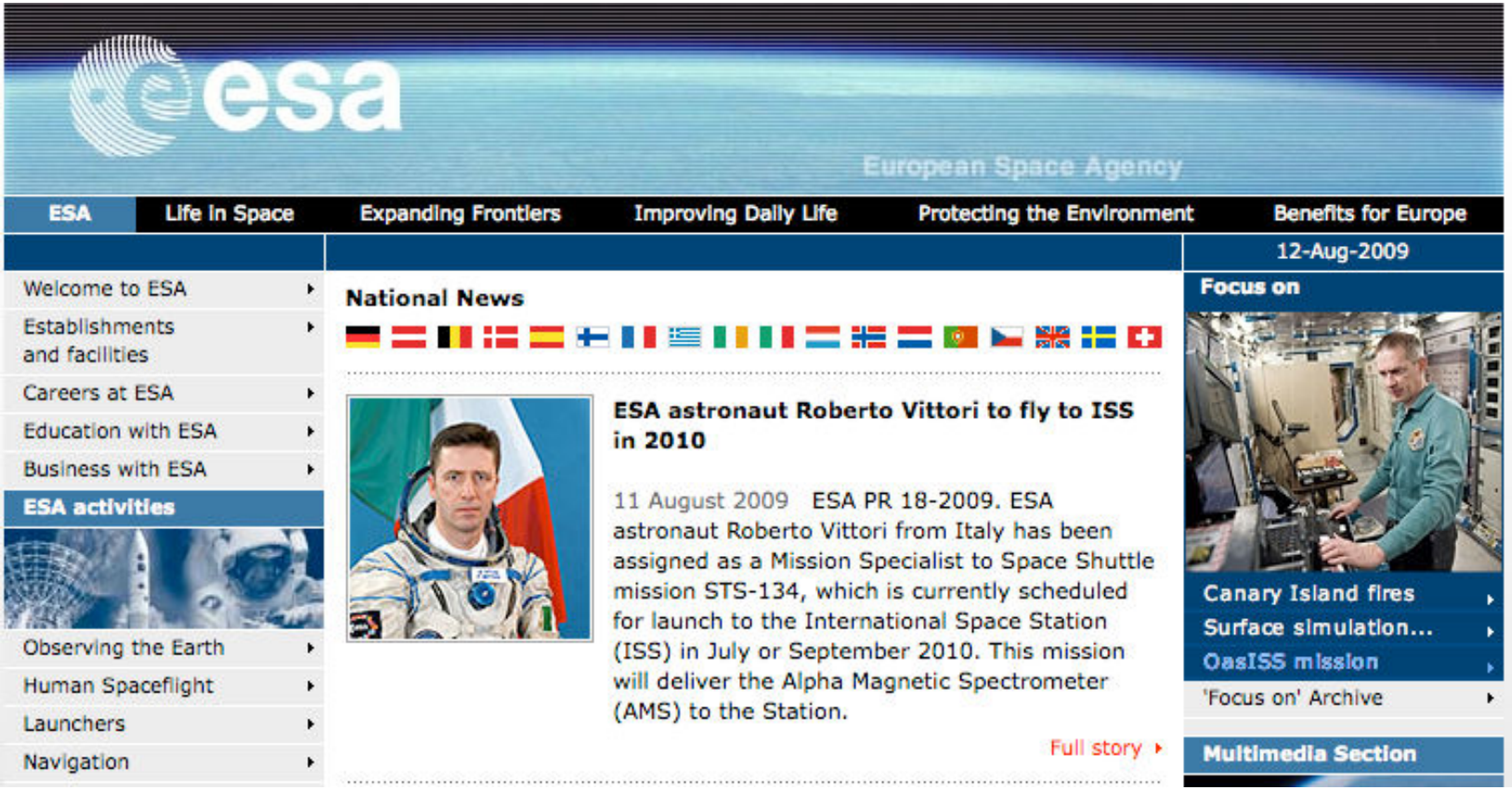
MULTIMEDIA:

Captions and **videos**: decided languages.

Brochures in all member states languages

LOOKING AT OTHER ORGANIZATIONS…

http://www.esa.int/esaCP/index.html



http://ec.europa.eu/research/

23 official languages

CONCLUSION:

(No) bureaucracy & wasting time

Convention? (1-2-3..)

Inside: bilingualism as much as possible

Translation = “outsourced” project (done on request)

Missed opportunity: 20th

Expectations: biggest lab & www

Outside!

Manage a Message / Transport a “feeling” :
Translation = part of communication

International teamwork = advertisement

CERN budget > www (cms) / LP

Next change: Finding Higgs!