TITLE: Terminology, bilingualism and language planning (or lack thereof): the case of Maltese.

AUTHOR: Sergio Portelli

AFFILIATION: University of Malta

EMAIL: sergio.portelli@um.edu.mt

ABSTRACT: The paper shall discuss the terminological challenges placed on the Maltese language by Malta’s accession to the European Union in 2004. The impact of the long-standing practice of using English as the language of business, science and technology due to Malta’s official bilingualism, which deprived the Maltese language from developing its own terminology in these domains, shall be analysed in the light of the new terminological requirements of Maltese due to its newly-achieved status as one of the official languages of the EU. Particular focus shall be placed on the deficiencies in language planning, the perceptions and attitudes of general and specialised language users, and efforts being made in Malta and the EU institutions to bring the Maltese language at par with its peers in the shortest time possible.

BIO: Sergio Portelli teaches Translation Studies at the Department of Translation, Terminology and Interpreting Studies (Faculty of Arts) of the University of Malta. He teaches Terminology and Translation and co-ordinates a university-funded project for the digitization of terminological data collections for use by translators.