

---

## Figure 7.1. Index to languages used by international organizations Edition 51, 2014/2015

---

The tables on language use by international organizations have always been, and are now, based on the descriptions in Volume 1 of this Yearbook series including the paragraph 'Languages', specifying the use, whether officially or informally, of a given language or languages.

Since the 40<sup>th</sup> edition an effort has been made to identify individual languages more clearly and to group them in families in order to present a more comprehensive picture of language use by international organizations.

In the past some organizations were excluded from the tables on language use because the sequence of computer programmes used to produce these tables was not able to detect specific languages in their descriptions. This was due sometimes to alternate spellings or mis-spellings in the various descriptions (e.g. Inupiak may have been detected and Inupiaq not) and sometimes to the use of a non-specific term (e.g. 'several African languages'). Also in the past no link was made between languages. If one organization specified the use of Croatian and another the use of Serbo-Croatian, each was counted separately and no reference was given from one to the other.

The editors have attempted to remedy these omissions firstly by improving the detection of potential mis-spellings, and secondly by building a hierarchical structure of languages which includes alternate spellings. The results so far can be seen in the index on the next pages. Note that, although over 1000 languages have been included in the hierarchical structure, only those languages mentioned in the description of at least one organization are included here, along with the language families to which they belong, in order to avoid an unnecessary degree of complexity.

If the spelling of a language has common variants, then generally one variant is chosen as the standard for the purposes of these tables and all other spellings refer to that one. For example, the tables list only 'Bosnia', but 'Bosnian' is also recognized and counted and then included with 'Bosnia' (see below "Bosnian see Bosnia").

If the reference to a language in an organization's description is non-specific, the term used can in every case nonetheless be found in the tables. For example, if the organization's description says 'several African languages', it is counted with the language family 'African', along with an organization specifying, for example, 'Yoruba' (Yoruba → Bantu → Niger-Congo → African). The main difference is that the latter organization is also counted under 'Yoruba', 'Bantu', 'Niger-Congo' and 'African' while the former is counted only under 'African'.

A special case is the language group 'European' which is included not because it is considered a language family as such, but because some organizations say only that they use 'European languages' without specifying which languages they consider 'European'. So as not to be obliged to exclude these organizations from these tables, and *for the purposes of these tables only*, the editors have decided that 'European' means the official languages of the European Union. (Therefore, in this edition 'European' includes Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Slovakian, Slovenian, Spanish, and Swedish.) 'European' is not itself included with the language family 'Indo-European' but every language that is included with 'European' is also included, in its own right, with 'Indo-European'.

If a language is related to another language, if it is a member of a language family, then the link is made and the language family is also included in these tables. For example, 'Croatian' points to 'Serbo-Croatian' (see below "Croatian *included with* Serbo-Croatian"), which points to the language family 'South Slavic', which points in turn to the language family 'Slavic' and then to the language family 'Indo-European'. The family tree (of this relationship only) can be drawn thus:

```
Indo-European
  ⇒ Albanian
  ⇒ Armenian
  ⇒ Baltic
  ⇒ Celtic
  ⇒ Germanic
  ⇒ Greek
  ⇒ Indo-Iranian
  ⇒ Romance
  ⇒ Slavic
    ⇒ Slavonic
    ⇒ South Slavic
      ⇒ Bulgarian
      ⇒ Macedonian
      ⇒ Serbo-Croatian
        ⇒ Bosnia (or Bosnian)
        ⇒ Croatian
        ⇒ Serbian
      ⇒ Slovenian
    ⇒ West Slavic
    ⇒ East Slavic
```

It should be noted that in these tables the figures for any given language or language family are cumulative only to a certain extent. For example, the figures for 'Croatian' include only organizations which list 'Croatian' specifically, but the figures for 'Serbo-Croatian' include organizations listing 'Croatian', 'Bosnia' and 'Bosnian', 'Serbian' and also 'Serbo-Croatian' as such. The figures for 'Serbo-Croatian' are therefore not merely the total of the figures for 'Croatian', 'Bosnia' and 'Bosnian' and 'Serbian'.

African *includes* Niger-Congo  
 Afrikaans *included with* West Germanic  
 Afro-Asiatic *includes* Chadic, Semitic  
 Akan *includes* Twi / *included with* Kwa  
 Albanian *included with* Indo-European  
 Altaic *includes* Korean, Japanese, Mongolian, Turkic / *included with* Ural-Altai  
 Amharic *included with* Semitic  
 Arabic *included with* Semitic  
 Armenian *included with* Indo-European  
 Austroasiatic *includes* Mon-Khmer, Hmong-Hmoob  
 Austronesian *includes* Bahasa Indonesia, Bahasa Malaysia, Polynesian, Tagalog, Tetun  
 Aymara *included with* Uto-Aztec  
 Bahasa Indonesia *includes* Indonesian / *included with* Austronesian  
 Bahasa Malaysia *includes* Malay / *included with* Austronesian  
 Baltic *includes* Latvian, Lithuanian / *included with* Indo-European  
 Bangla *included with* Indo-Aryan  
 Bantu *includes* Kikongo, Kiswahili, Nyanja, Sesotho, Swahili, Tsonga, Tswana, Xhosa, Zulu / *included with* Niger-Congo  
 Basque *included with* Isolate  
 Belarus *see* Belorussian  
 Belarussian *see* Belorussian  
 Belorussian *see* Belorussian  
 Belorussian *included with* East Slavic  
 Bemba *included with* Pidgin-Swahili based  
 Bengali *included with* Indo-Aryan  
 Bohemian *included with* West Slavic  
 Bosnia *included with* Serbo-Croatian  
 Bosnian *see* Bosnia  
 Brazilian *included with* Portuguese  
 Breton *included with* Celtic  
 Bulgarian *included with* South Slavic  
 Burmese *included with* Myanmar  
 Byelorussian *see* Belorussian  
 Cambodian *included with* Khmer  
 Cantonese *included with* Chinese  
 Catalan *included with* Romance  
 Cebuano *included with* Visayan  
 Celtic *includes* Breton, Cornish, Gaelic, Irish, Manx, Welsh / *included with* Indo-European  
 Chadic *includes* Hausa / *included with* Afro-Asiatic  
 Chinese *includes* Cantonese, Mandarin Chinese, Min / *included with* Sino-Tibetan  
 Common Turkic *includes* Southern Turkic, Uzbek / *included with* Turkic  
 Constructed languages *includes* Esperanto, Interlingua, Interlingue  
 Cornish *included with* Celtic  
 Creole *includes* Creole-English based, Creole-Iberian based  
 Creole-English based *includes* Tok Pisin / *included with* Creole  
 Creole-Iberian based *includes* Papiamentu / *included with* Creole  
 Croatian *included with* Serbo-Croatian  
 Czech *included with* West Slavic and with European  
 Dani *included with* Trans-New Guinea  
 Danish *included with* North Germanic and with European  
 Dravidian *includes* Kannada, Malayalam, Tamil, Telugu  
 Dutch *includes* Flemish / *included with* West Germanic and with European  
 East Slavic *includes* Russian, Ukrainian, Belorussian / *included with* Slavic  
 English *included with* West Germanic and with European  
 Eskimo-Aleut *includes* Inuktitut, Inupiaq, Yup'ik / *included with* Native American  
 Esperanto *includes* Internacia Lingvo / *included with* Constructed languages  
 Estonian *included with* Uralic and with European  
 European *includes* Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Slovakian, Slovenian, Spanish, Swedish

Faeroese *included with* North Germanic  
 Faroese *see* Faeroese  
 Farsi *included with* Persian  
 Fijian *included with* Polynesian  
 Filipino *included with* Tagalog  
 Finnish *included with* Uralic and with European  
 Finno-Ugric *includes* Saami / *included with* Uralic  
 Flemish *included with* Dutch  
 French *included with* Romance and with European  
 Gaelic *included with* Celtic  
 German *included with* West Germanic and with European  
 Germanic *includes* North Germanic, West Germanic / *included with* Indo-European  
 Greek *included with* Indo-European and with European  
 Greenlandic *included with* Inuktitut  
 Guarani *included with* Tupi-Guarani  
 Gujarati *included with* Indo-Aryan  
 Hausa *included with* Chadic  
 Hebrew *included with* Semitic  
 Hindi *includes* Urdu, Western Hindi / *included with* Indo-Aryan  
 Hindustani *included with* Western Hindi  
 Hmong-Hmoob *included with* Austroasiatic  
 Hungarian *included with* Uralic and with European  
 Icelandic *included with* North Germanic  
 Indo-Aryan *includes* Bangla, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Marathi, Nepalese, Romany, Sanskrit / *included with* Indo-Iranian  
 Indo-European *includes* Albanian, Armenian, Baltic, Celtic, Germanic, Greek, Indo-Iranian, Romance, Slavic  
 Indo-Iranian *includes* Indo-Aryan, Iranian / *included with* Indo-European  
 Indonesian *included with* Bahasa Indonesia  
 Interlingua *included with* Constructed languages  
 Interlingue *included with* Constructed languages  
 Internacia Lingvo *included with* Esperanto  
 Inuktitut *includes* Kalaallisut / *included with* Eskimo-Aleut  
 Inupiaq *see* Inupiaq  
 Inupiaq *included with* Eskimo-Aleut  
 Iranian *includes* Persian / *included with* Indo-Iranian  
 Irish *included with* Celtic and with European  
 Irish Gaelic *see* Irish  
 Isolate *includes* Basque  
 Italian *included with* Romance and with European  
 Japanese *included with* Altaic  
 Kadai *includes* Tai / *included with* Sino-Tibetan  
 Kalaallisut *included with* Inuktitut  
 Kannada *included with* Dravidian  
 Khmer *includes* Cambodian / *included with* Mon-Khmer  
 Kikongo *includes* Lingala / *included with* Bantu  
 Kiswahili *included with* Bantu  
 Korean *included with* Altaic  
 Kwa *includes* Akan / *included with* Niger-Congo  
 Laotian *included with* Tai  
 Latin *included with* Romance  
 Latvian *included with* Baltic and with European  
 Lekhitic *includes* Polish / *included with* West Slavic  
 Lingala *included with* Kikongo  
 Lithuanian *included with* Baltic and with European  
 Luxemburgisch *included with* West Germanic  
 Macedonian *included with* South Slavic  
 Malay *included with* Bahasa Malaysia  
 Malayalam *included with* Dravidian  
 Maltese *included with* Semitic and with European  
 Mandarin Chinese *included with* Chinese  
 Manx *included with* Celtic  
 Marathi *included with* Indo-Aryan  
 Melanesian Pidgin *included with* Pidgin-Motu based  
 Min *includes* Min-Nan / *included with* Chinese  
 Min-Nan *includes* Minnan / *included with* Min  
 Minnan *includes* Taiwanese / *included with* Min-Nan  
 Mon-Khmer *includes* Khmer, Vietnamese / *included with* Austroasiatic  
 Mongolian *included with* Altaic  
 Myanmar *includes* Burmese / *included with* Sino-Tibetan  
 Nahuatl *included with* Uto-Aztec

Native American *includes* Eskimo-Aleut, Uto-Aztec  
 Nepalese *included with* Indo-Aryan  
 Nepali *see* Nepalese  
 Niger-Congo *includes* Bantu, Kwa, Yoruba / *included with* African  
 Nordic *included with* Scandinavian/Nordic  
 North Germanic *includes* Danish, Faeroese, Icelandic, Norwegian, Scandinavian/Nordic, Swedish / *included with* Germanic  
 Norwegian *included with* North Germanic  
 Nyanja *included with* Bantu  
 Occitan *included with* Romance  
 Papiamentu *included with* Creole-Iberian based  
 Persian *includes* Farsi / *included with* Iranian  
 Pidgin *includes* Pidgin-Motu based, Pidgin-Swahili based  
 Pidgin-Motu based *includes* Melanesian Pidgin / *included with* Pidgin  
 Pidgin-Swahili based *includes* Bemba / *included with* Pidgin  
 Pilipino *included with* Tagalog  
 Polish *included with* Lekhitic and with European  
 Polynesian *includes* Fijian, Samoan / *included with* Austronesian  
 Portuguese *includes* Brazilian / *included with* Romance and with European  
 Quechua  
 Romance *includes* Catalan, French, Italian, Latin, Occitan, Portuguese, Romanian, Spanish / *included with* Indo-European  
 Romanian *included with* Romance  
 Romany *included with* Indo-Aryan  
 Russian *included with* East Slavic  
 Saami *included with* Finno-Ugric  
 Sami *see* Saami  
 Samoan *included with* Polynesian  
 Sanskrit *included with* Indo-Aryan  
 Scandinavian *included with* Scandinavian/Nordic  
 Scandinavian/Nordic *includes* Nordic, Scandinavian / *included with* North Germanic  
 Semitic *includes* Amharic, Arabic, Hebrew, Maltese, Tigrigna / *included with* Afro-Asiatic  
 Serbian *included with* Serbo-Croatian  
 Serbo-Croatian *includes* Bosnia, Croatian, Serbian / *included with* South Slavic  
 Sesotho *includes* Southern Sotho / *included with* Bantu  
 Setswana *included with* Tswana  
 Sino-Tibetan *includes* Chinese, Kadai, Myanmar, Tibetan  
 Slavic *includes* Slavonic, South Slavic, West Slavic, East Slavic / *included with* Indo-European  
 Slavonic *included with* Slavic  
 Slovak *included with* Slovakian  
 Slovakian *includes* Slovak / *included with* West Slavic and with European  
 Slovene *see* Slovenian  
 Slovenian *included with* South Slavic and with European  
 Sotho *included with* Sesotho  
 South Slavic *includes* Slovenian, Serbo-Croatian, Bulgarian, Macedonian / *included with* Slavic  
 Southern Sotho *included with* Sesotho  
 Southern Turkic *includes* Turkish / *included with* Common Turkic  
 Spanish *included with* Romance and with European  
 Swahili *included with* Bantu  
 Swedish *included with* North Germanic and with European  
 Tagalog *includes* Filipino, Pilipino, Visayan / *included with* Austronesian  
 Tai *includes* Thai, Laotian / *included with* Kadai  
 Taiwanese *included with* Minnan  
 Tamil *included with* Dravidian  
 Telugu *includes* Telugu / *included with* Dravidian  
 Telugu *included with* Telugu  
 Tetun *included with* Austronesian  
 Thai *included with* Tai  
 Tibetan *included with* Sino-Tibetan  
 Tigrigna *includes* Tigrinya, Tigrino / *included with* Semitic  
 Tigrino *included with* Tigrigna  
 Tigrinya *included with* Tigrigna  
 Tok Pisin *included with* Creole-English based  
 Trans-New Guinea *includes* Dani  
 Tsonga *included with* Bantu  
 Tswana *includes* Setswana / *included with* Bantu  
 Tupi *includes* Tupi-Guarani  
 Tupi-Guarani *includes* Guarani / *included with* Tupi  
 Turkic *includes* Common Turkic / *included with* Altaic  
 Turkish *included with* Southern Turkic  
 Twi *included with* Akan  
 Ukrainian *included with* East Slavic  
 Ural-Altaic *includes* Altaic, Uralic  
 Uralic *includes* Finnish, Hungarian, Estonian, Finno-Ugric / *included with* Ural-Altaic  
 Urdu *included with* Hindi  
 Uto-Aztec *includes* Aymara, Nahuatl / *included with* Native American  
 Uzbek *included with* Common Turkic  
 Vietnamese *included with* Mon-Khmer  
 Visayan *includes* Cebuano / *included with* Tagalog  
 Welsh *included with* Celtic  
 West Germanic *includes* Afrikaans, Dutch, English, German, Luxemburgisch, Yiddish / *included with* Germanic  
 West Slavic *includes* Bohemian, Czech, Slovakian, Lekhitic / *included with* Slavic  
 Western Hindi *includes* Hindustani / *included with* Hindi  
 Xhosa *included with* Bantu  
 Yiddish *included with* West Germanic  
 Yoruba *included with* Niger-Congo  
 Yup'ik *included with* Eskimo-Aleut  
 Zulu *included with* Bantu