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MIDAS

European Association of Daily
Newspapers in Minority and Regional
Languages



History of MIDAS?

- In 1998 Editors and Managers of about 30 Dailies met in Trieste.
- They decided to establish an European Association.
- MIDAS (Minority Dailies Association) was established in Palma de Mallorca in 2001.
- Politically independent, non-profit Association for Minority Press.
- The Headquarter is based at the European Academy Bozen/Bolzano (South Tyrol)

First Midas Governing Board

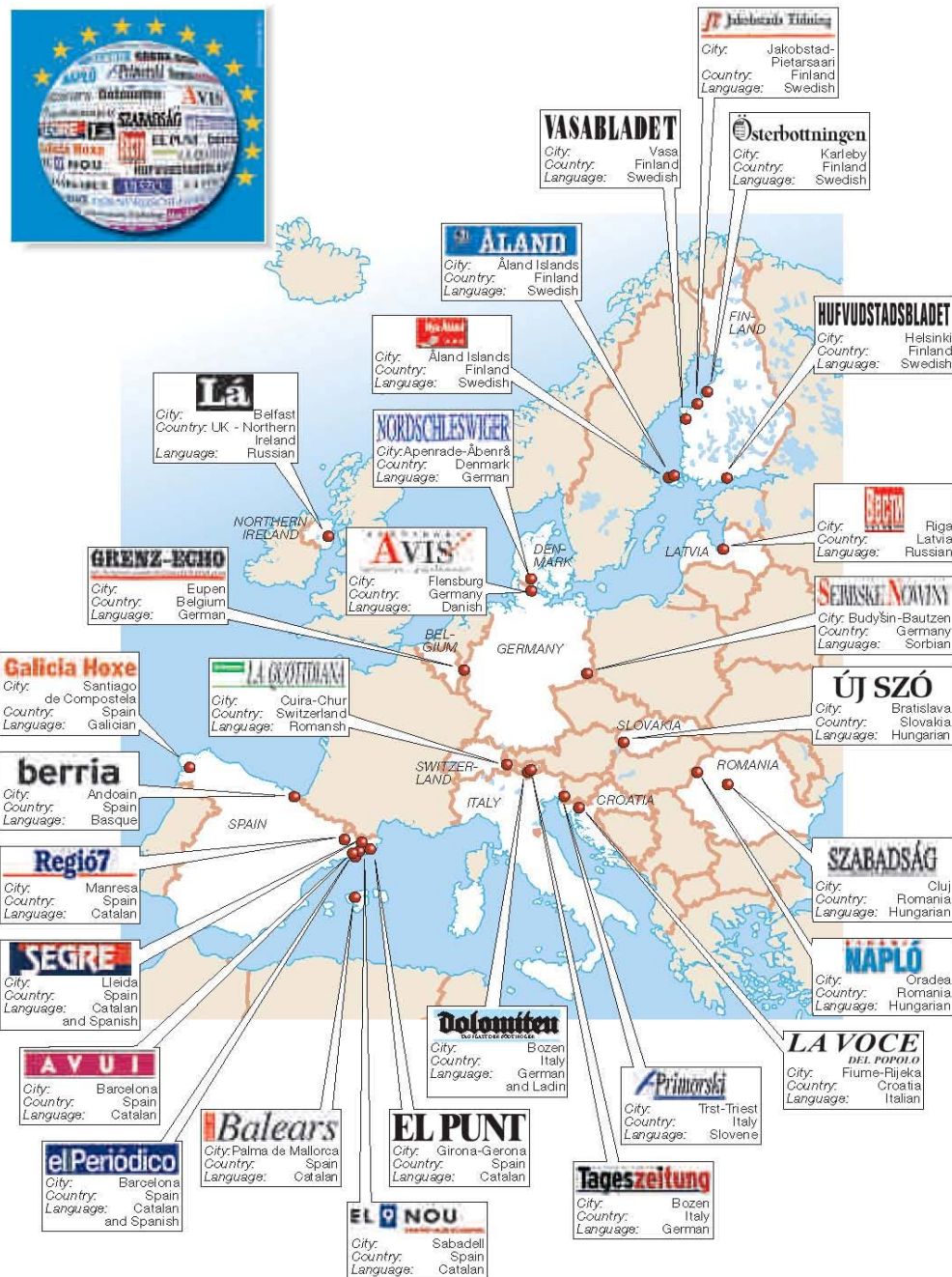




Who are Members of MIDAS?

- Daily Newspapers in Minority/Regional Languages.
- There are 29 Members from Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland.
- Our Newspapers are published in 13 different Languages.
- We expect new members from Estonia, Wales and Central and Eastern European Countries

Minority Dailies in Europe





Daily Circulation of Midas Newspapers

- Printed Circulation
739.663 Copies
- Distributed Circulation
731.434 Copies
- Sales Circulation
655.350 Copies
- Readers
ca. 3 Mio.

What is the European Frame of Midas?

- Over 45 Million People in the EU are speaking an unofficial Language.
- Help and Support of new Newspapers.
- Promote EU and State Legislation in Support of Minority Newspapers.
- Lobbying for Political and Financial Support
- Awareness raising for Minority/Regional Languages.





Some Midas-Initiatives

- Co-operation between Members
 - Conferences and Media Workshops,
 - Exchange of Information and Publications,
 - Political Support for Midas Members,
 - Editorial and Technical Co-operation,
 - Training and Exchange of Collaborators,
 - Administration of the Association and the Homepage.
- Midas Study Visit - Journalists Exchange - Programme.
- Otto von Habsburg and Midas Prize for Journalism in Minority Protection and Cultural Diversity.

Co-operation between Midas Members

- Joint Delegation to the EP and EC to promote EU-advertising.
- Joint Delegation to EP and EC and Petitions to the CoE to support the closed Basque Newspaper Egunkaria.
- Joint Delegation to Croatia to support the Italian Newspaper La Voce del Popolo.
- Political Support for the Irish Newspaper Lá.
- Technical Support for the Welsh Newspaper Project.



Otto von Habsburg Prize for Journalism

- Award for Journalists for Daily Newspapers in Europe for reporting on issues of Minority Protection and Cultural Diversity.
- Prize Winner 2004: Reinhard Olt, FAZ.



- Prize Winner 2005: Gian Antonio Stella, Corriere della Sera.



Midas Prize for Journalism

- Award for Journalists of Midas Member Newspapers for reporting on issues of Minority Protection and Cultural Diversity.
- Prize Winner 2004: Ainara Mendiaola, Berria.



- Prize Winner 2005: Bjorn Mansson, Hufvudstadsbladet.





Public Midas Project Funding

- EC-DG Education and Culture
- Autonomous Region Trentino-South Tyrol and Autonomous Province South Tyrol
- Generalitat de Catalunya and Govern de Les Illes Balears
- Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic
- Swedish Cultural Foundation and The Nordic Cultural Fund
- Eusko Jauriaritza - Government of the Basque Country
- Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany and „Stiftung für das Sorbische Volk“

Evaluation and Best Practice

- Midas as an „*Example of Good Practice*“ in Networking under EU Budget Lines B3-1006 and B3-1000

Source: Report "The European Union and Lesser-Used Languages" (Education and Culture Series EDUC 108 EN, 2002)

- „...*promote the mutual cooperation of regional or minority language communities, provided this has a European dimension and involves cross-border cooperation - for example MIDAS, EEBA, etc.;...*“

Source: Report on „Regional and lesser used European languages - the languages of the minorities within the EU considering EU-enlargement and cultural variety“ (European Parliament, 14 July 2003)

