

# FGOV Language Policy

## About this document

<i>URL</i>	<a href="https://tinyurl.com/tn4rrua">https://tinyurl.com/tn4rrua</a>
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<i>version</i>	5
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<i>distribution</i>	FGOV (joint meeting of Workers Council and Student Council with Faculty Board)

## Consolidated versions

#	Date	Auteur(s)	Changes
1	<a href="#">20-11-2019</a>	Guus Schreiber	Fitsy version
2	20-01-2020	Maaïke Verbree	Add reference to VU language policy
3	04-03-2020	Maaïke Verbree	Add suggestions FSR in 3c.
4	<a href="#">14-12-2020</a>	Maaïke Verbree	Add valorization in 3a.
5	05-10-2021	Maaïke Verbree	Adjustment of 3c based on suggestions FSR and in line with VU language policy. Add 3e.

## Background

The FGOV is a central and crucial meeting of the faculty with a diverse group of participants. Given the growing number of international students and staff members we need to find a good balance for the language to use in the participatory meetings, such as the FGOV.

## Policy

1. Baseline for the language policy is that we try to accommodate as many as possible participants with limited Dutch skills as well as participants with limited English skills (inclusiveness by parallel language use).
2. Guidelines to support inclusiveness can be found in [VU language policy](#). In summary this means:
  - a. If a subject is discussed in Dutch, participants may contribute in English, but should expect replies to be given in Dutch.
  - b. If a subject is discussed in English, participants may contribute in Dutch, but should expect replies to be given in English.
  - c. It is expected that participants passively understand Dutch/English (B2 level).
3. In addition to the VU language policy, FB decided on the following faculty guidelines for FGOV:
  - a. Agenda items concerning education, research, and valorization are discussed in English.
  - b. Other agenda items (such as organization, human-resource management) are discussed in Dutch.
  - c. The Faculty offers international members of the Student Council the possibility to train their Dutch skills (via the course 'Basic Dutch on Campus'). In particular passive language skills (understanding spoken and written Dutch text). Students who want to participate in FSR have the obligation to make an effort in raising their language level. The Faculty fully compensates the financial costs for this course to achieve this.
  - d. The Faculty will make an effort to provide the FGOV minutes in English.
  - e. The Faculty will make an effort to provide a (downloadable) version of Dutch documents so this can be translated in English by a translation tool. The Faculty will reimburse the license fees of the translation tool. An automatic translated English version of the strategic long-term plan, annual plan, and annual report will be provided by the Faculty