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## **'Bundles of linguistic interaction types'**

### **Some notes on academic language use and language policy**

In the years to come, systematic observation of linguistic practice at the national universities may well become a necessary and natural part of the language policy of several countries.

For this purpose, not only monitoring systems will be needed to generate systematic data on the institutions' use of national as well as international languages. To analyse the collected information and assess its language political aspects, a theoretical notion of what is meant by "academic linguistic activity" should also be provided. Only by means of such a specific understanding can an adequate evaluation of the linguistic practice at hand be possible.

In my paper, I deal with this, drawing on an understanding of academic subject-matters as fivefold bundles of activities, an idea launched by the Norwegian sociologist Kalleberg. Those five activities are *research publishing*, *dissemination of knowledge*, *teaching*, *expert (advisory) practice* and *self-governance*. Consequently, one can identify specific types of linguistic interaction within the academic institutions as well as in their relationship to society in general. An example: Research results are very often published in a lingua franca such as English, whereas the actual dissemination of such results usually and equally naturally takes place in the national language.

Finally, I touch on some linguistically relevant aspects of this, based upon some recent data, mainly from a Norwegian context.