
Terminology from an Irish Language Perspective

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-
- Irish Language Context
 - Fiontar
 - Focal.ie
 - IATE
 - Conclusion
 - Questions

The Irish language

- A Celtic language
- The Irish language in Ireland
 - The ***first* official language** of Ireland
 - **Official Languages Act 2003**
 - An **official language of the EU** since 2007



2006 census

- 1,570,894 speakers of Irish aged 3 and over
- 339,541 daily speakers throughout Ireland
- 86,517 daily speakers living in Gaeltacht (Irish-speaking) areas
- Predominantly L2 (non-native) speakers



Fiontar

- cutting edge research
- electronic resources: [Focal](#), [Logainm](#), and [LEX](#)
- Focal.ie won the 'Best Irish Language Site' at the Irish Web Awards 2008
- The European Language Label in 2007



Reference resources 'before'

○ **Terminology**

- *Printed dictionaries*

- 50+ dictionaries available
- Sometimes contradicting each other

- *Electronic dictionaries*

- Derivatives of printed works
- Static files (PDF, Microsoft Word, static web pages)
- Incomplete exploitation of the potential of the electronic medium

Reference resources 'after'

The screenshot shows the focal.ie website in a Mozilla Firefox browser window. The browser's address bar displays the URL <http://www.focal.ie/Home.aspx>. The website's header includes the focal.ie logo and the text "SONRAÍ Á SEICEÁIL AR BHONN LEANÚNACH CONTINUOUS DATA-CHECKING IN PROGRESS". Below the header, there are three main navigation links: "Bunachar Téarmaíochta Terminology Database", "Cúrsa Scileanna Foclóra Dictionary Skills Course", and "Eolas faoi focal.ie About focal.ie".

The main content area features a search bar with the label "Téarma • Term:" and a search button labeled "Cuardaigh • Search". Above the search bar are three options: "Cuardach Tapa Quick Search", "Cuardach Casta Advanced Search", and "Liostaí Aibítreacha Alphabetical Listings". Below the search bar, there is a prompt: "Scríobh téarma Béarla nó Gaeilge. • Type a term in English or Irish."

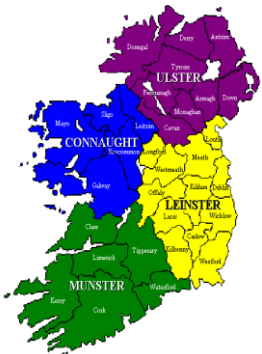
At the bottom of the page, there are two sections: "Inneachar reatha an bhunachair Current database contents" and "Téarma Tráthúil • Featured Term". The featured term is "fóram *fir1* comhrá" with the subtext "ai: fóraim chomhrá". Below this, there is a list item: "Ríomhairí, Ríomheolaíocht/Computers, Computer Science" with a link to "chat forum s".

The footer of the page includes the text "Déanta" and the date "17/05/2009".

- National Terminology Database
- Pronunciation: **[fɔkəl]** 'word'
- Developed in-house by Fiontar, DCU in collaboration with an Coiste Téarmaíochta & Foras na Gaeilge, 2005

Who uses Focal?

- Translators/Interpreters
- Editors
- Writers
- People in Business/Media
- School pupils/Students



Some Facts

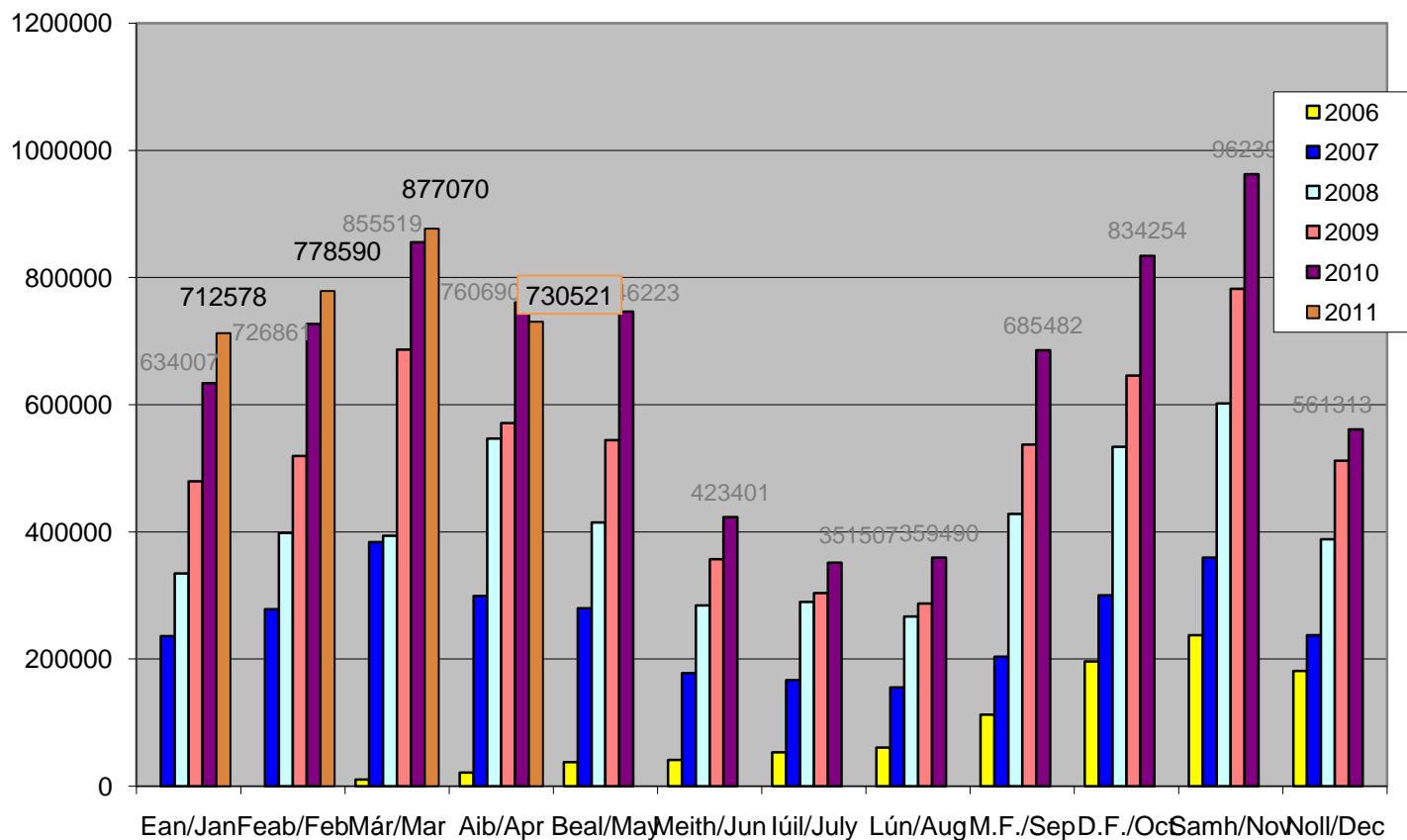
880,000 + individual visitors

3.9 million website visits

- c. 25 million searches
- 164,734 Irish terms
- 159,829 English terms
- 5,944 terms in other languages



The latest usage statistics for FOCAL



Impact on users

- Popular! 640,000+ searches a month
- Visually attractive
- Enquiry form
- Emails received every day: requests for advice, corrections, suggestions.



Overall design principles

The screenshot shows a Mozilla Firefox browser window with the URL focal.ie. The browser's address bar and menu bar are visible at the top. The website's header includes navigation links for [bunachar téarmaíochta](#) (terminology database), [cúrsa scileanna foclóra](#) (dictionary skills course), and [eolas faoi focal.ie](#) (about focal.ie), along with the [focal.ie](#) logo and the name **FIONTAR**.

The main content area features a descriptive paragraph: **Is é seo an Bunachar Náisiúnta Téarmaíochta don Ghaeilge, arna fhorbairt ag Fiontar, DCU i gcomhar leis an gCoiste Téarmaíochta, Foras na Gaeilge.** This is the National Terminology Database for Irish, developed by Fiontar, DCU in collaboration with An Coiste Téarmaíochta, Foras na Gaeilge.

Below the text are three search options: **Cuardach Tapa** (Quick Search), **Cuardach Casta** (Advanced Search), and **Liostaí Aibítreacha** (Alphabetical Listings). A search input field is labeled **Téarma · Term** and contains the instruction **Scríobh téarma Béarla nó Gaeilge · Type a term in English or Irish**. A **Cuardaigh · Search** button is positioned to the right of the input field.

At the bottom left, there is a **Fógraí** (Announcements) section with a link to **English**. The **Téarma an Lae** (Term of the Day) section shows the date **07/12/2009** and the word **reathaíocht bain3 trastíre**, with a sub-link for **Spórt » Cluichí Lúthchleasaíochta · Sport » Athletic sports** and the translation **cross-country running s**.

IATE (LEX)

- European Union's terminology database iate.europa.eu
- **c. 9 million terms** in the 23 official languages of the Union.
- Resource for Irish language translators in the EU



IATE (LEX)



- **Partners in Ireland:** Fiontar, Foras na Gaeilge and the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
- **Partners in the European Union:** EU institutions (including input from experts in the fields of technology, terminology and translation).

Terms per language in IATE (April 2007)

Language	Number of terms	Language	Number of terms
BG	2.839	LA	84.456
CS	22.120	LT	31.326
DA	618.974	LV	12.966
DE	1.085.093	MT	2.859
EL	526.696	NL	712.042
EN	1.502.786	PL	25.854
ES	636.699	PT	544.093
ET	18.136	RO	5.151
FI	330.625	SK	18.104
FR	1.389.510	SL	17.036
GA	13.427	SV	319.062
HU	25.884	Others	49.712
IT	721.550		

Fiontar's Editorial Workflow

- **List of Terms from the E.U.**
- **Primary Research**
- **Research Analysis**
- **Third Check**
- **Extranet**
- **Feedback**
- **Handback**
- **Input in IATE**



Fiontar's Editorial Workflow

Úsáideoir: una | Síniú isteach arís | Síniú amach | Leathanach tosaigh

Cuardach Tapa

aerobic digestion

Gach teanga

Cuardaigh

Béarla (1)

Torthaí beachta (1)

aerobic digestion *Term*

- COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION, NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

= **aerobic fermentation** *Term*

FR fermentation aérobie *Term (AÉROBIE:À PROPOS DE MICRO-ORGANISMES AYANT BESOIN D'AIR(OXYGÈNE)POUR SE DÉVELOPPER;PAR EXTENSION,LE PROCESSUS UTILISANT CES MICRO-ORGANISMES;CONTRAIRE:ANAÉROBIE(SOLAIRE 1 MAGAZIN E,FÉVR./MARS 1980,P.27))*

spontaneous slow biodegradation under aerobic conditions resulting in the formation of carbon dioxide, e.g. the process of decomposition in nature; cf. putrefaction, composting, digestion REF: 1)TNC 62

T041 - Viticulture

Téarmaí gaolmhara (0)

Níor aimsíodh téarma ar bith

IATE: 1077273 52030

52030 Gabh úinéir: ciarac Athlódáil

spléachadh TRM RÉIM BAIL SAIN NÓT stair focal.ie AE

- NÍL** an bunscagadh déanta (déan)
- NÍL** an meánscagadh déanta
- NÍL** an coincheap réidh le himeacht chuig IATE
- NÍL** an coincheap á scrúdú ar an eislíon
- NÍL** an coincheap á scrúdú ag an Choiste Téarmaíochta
- NÍL** an coincheap ar tí imeacht
- NÍL** an coincheap imithe chuig IATE

SPLÉACHADH

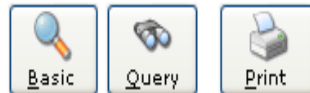
- aerobic digestion** *Term*
aerobic fermentation *Term*
COMPOSITION OF THE POPULATION, NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

FR fermentation aérobie *Term (AÉROBIE:À PROPOS DE MICRO-ORGANISMES AYANT BESOIN D'AIR(OXYGÈNE)POUR SE DÉVELOPPER;PAR EXTENSION,LE PROCESSUS UTILISANT CES MICRO-ORGANISMES;CONTRAIRE:ANAÉROBIE(SOLAIRE 1 MAGAZIN E,FÉVR./MARS 1980,P.27))*

spontaneous slow biodegradation under aerobic conditions resulting in the formation of carbon dioxide, e.g. the process of decomposition in nature; cf. putrefaction, composting, digestion REF: 1)TNC 62

T041 - Viticulture

IATE Interface



Logged in as...
 EXT-DCUM
[Exit](#)

View Entry Id

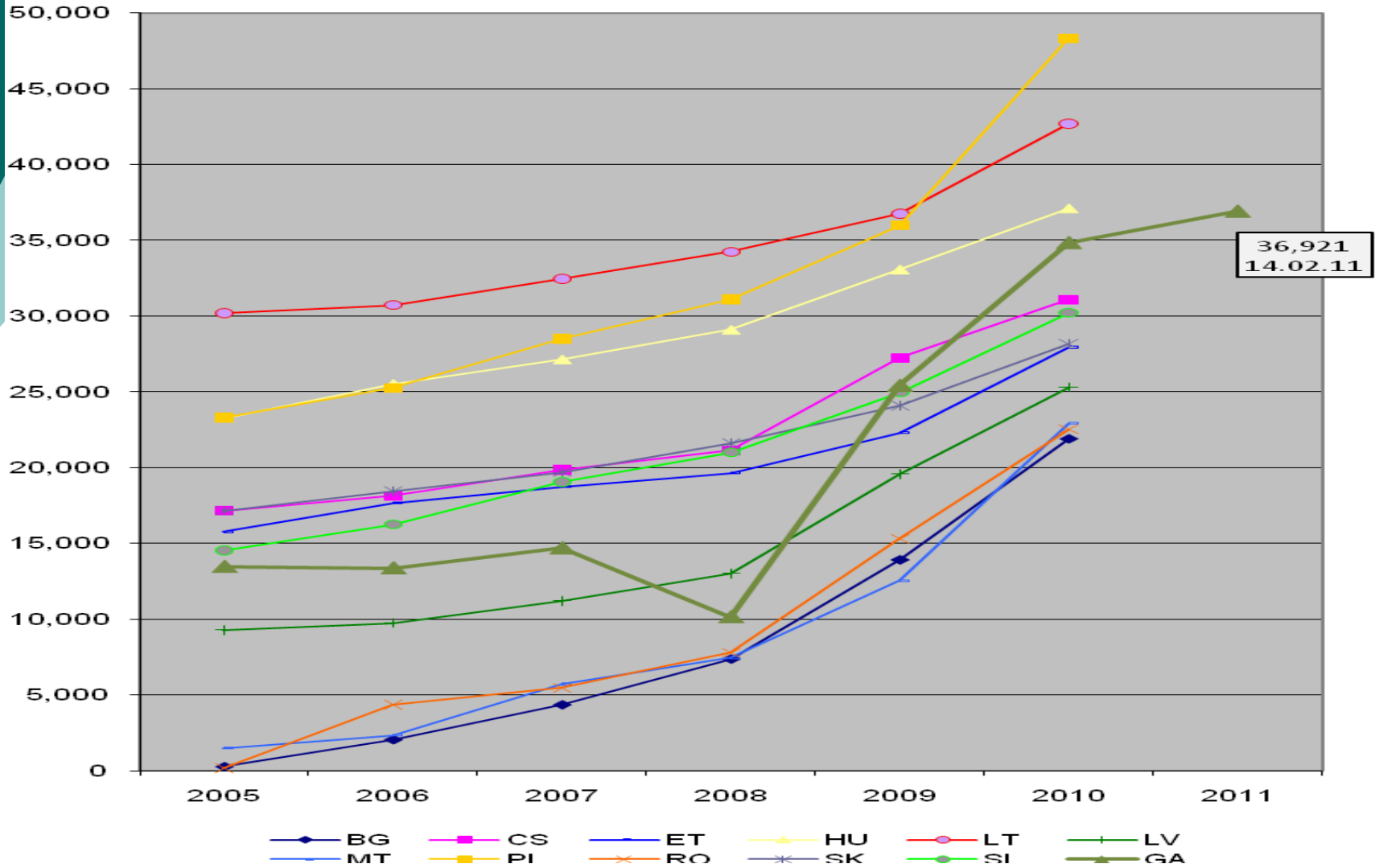
Recent Views
[46897](#)
[818918](#)

Hit Lists
[Last Results](#)

818918	Community budget,		Council	⌵
bg			ECHA	⌵
	Бюджетен орган	3	ECHA	
cs			ECHA	⌵
	rozpočtový orgán	3	ECHA	
da			Council	⌵
	budgetmyndigheden	4	Council	
de			Council	⌵
	Haushaltsbehörde	3	Council	
	Haushaltsinstanz (im WSA)	3	Council	
	für die Feststellung des Haushaltsplans zuständige Organ	3	Council	
el			Council	⌵
	αρμόδια για τον προϋπολογισμό αρχή	3	Council	
en			Council	⌵
	budgetary authority	4	Council	
es			Council	⌵
	Autoridad Presupuestaria	4	Council	
et			ECHA	⌵
	leelarvapädevad institutsioonid	3	ECHA	
fi			Council	⌵
	budjettivallan käyttäjä	4	Council	

Each of the icons showing the

Productivity from 2008



Conclusion

A new reality

- The Irish language has legal status in both an Irish and a European context
- More people working through the medium of Irish
- High-quality, user-friendly tools to support work done through the medium of Irish now available
- These tools are both freely available to all and easy to use

○ A new perception based on this new reality

- Irish, the *national* minority language of Ireland, is now properly recognised both nationally and internationally
- Irish is at the cutting edge in terms of up-to-date high-tech Internet language resources
- The Irish language is no longer *not cool* nor *too difficult*

Thank you. Questions?



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