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**Multilingual Democracy:
Community Interpreting and Transnational Citizenship**

This paper provides a comparative discourse analysis between two groups of interpreters: those employed at the highest level of prestige and working status (conference interpreters for the European Parliament), and the other laboring in the trenches of everyday life (Turkish-German community interpreters). Community interpreting aims to facilitate communication in the public sphere among users of different languages; however, it is not yet codified in EU language policy. It is a site where issues of citizenship and rights converge with issues of identity and belonging. A comparison between those who receive interpreting services as a matter of course in EU governance and those who are routinely denied such services in daily life offers insight into the actual needs and ultimate outcomes which language policy should strive to address and implement. Finally, an argument is made that EU language policies will be neither truly democratic nor fully effective until they address the local, national, and transnational language needs of all persons residing and working in the EU.