

Bündnerromanisch

A Low-Resource Language Assessment
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Factsheet

- Considered as a Roman language
- Facets of German, Italian, Latin and French
- Many different Idioms
- ``Rumantsch Grischun" – artificial language based on the Idioms created in 1980's as a measure to allow better public communication and ``preserve the language" (not unquestioned)
- Spoken by about 60'000 speakers (not differing between the many different idioms)
- Example of typical combination "tg" (not found in Italian), tga (= house, [tʃa], also tgasa)

Regions

Sprachen des Kantons Graubünden



Examples – Idioms

- The fox was hungry yet again. There, he saw a raven upon a fir holding a piece of cheese in its beak. This I would like, he thought, and shouted at the raven: "You are so beautiful! If your singing is as beautiful as your looks, then you are the most beautiful of all birds."

- Surselvisch:

L'uolp era puspei inagada fomentada. Cheu ha ella viu sin in pegn in tgaper che teneva in toc caschiel en siu bec. Quei gustass a mi, ha ella tertgau, ed ha clamau al tgaper: „Tgei bi che ti eis! Sche tiu cant ei aschi bials sco tia cumparsa, lu eis ti il pli bi utschi da tuts“.

- Puter (Oberengadinisch):

La vuolp d'eira darcho üna vouta famanteda. Cò ho'la vis sün ün pin ün corv chi tгнаiva ün töch chaschöl in sieu pical. Que am gustess, ho'la penso, ed ho clamo al corv: „Che bel cha tü est! Scha tieu chaunt es uschè bel scu tia apparentscha, alura est tü il pü bel utschè da tuots“

Surselvisch - Spoken

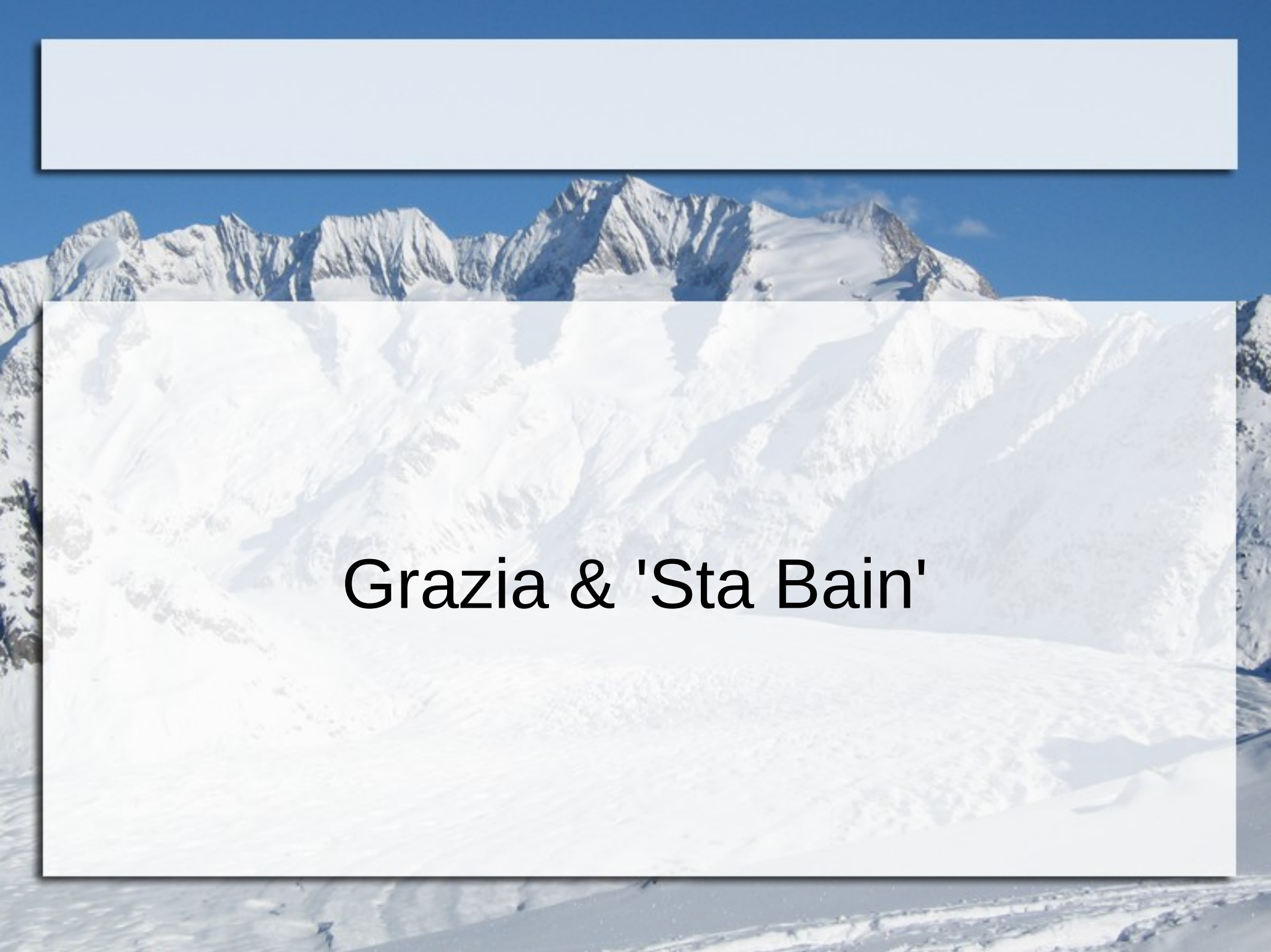


Label of Unesco

- “definitely endangered”
- However this only applies to the artificial ISO-Code language “Romansh”
- I assume that many of the different Idioms are rather “severely endangered” or even “critically endangered”

•Criteria to consider (UNESCO 2003)

- **Intergenerational language transmission** (*bad, I.a. many ``better" alternative languages in region to learn: German, Italian, English, French...*)
- **Absolute number of speakers** (*depending on Idiom, all: ~ 60'000*)
- Proportion of speakers within the total population (?)
- **Materials for language education and literacy** (*available, language is used in few schools*)
- **Governmental and institutional attitudes and policies, including official status and use** (*4th official language*)
- Community members' attitudes toward their own language. (*I.a. see first bullet*)
- **Amount and quality of documentation** (*okay, even few aligned corpora available, but again not for the different Idioms*)



Grazia & 'Sta Bain'

Sources and Links to Corpora

- Gathered Information mainly at: Wikipedia, Unesco, Uni Zürich
- Audio File:
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sursilvan-L%27uolp.ogg?uselang=de>
Datum 13. Februar 2011
Quelle Eigenes Werk
Urheber Terfili
- Picture: Me
- Corpora available cf.: <http://www.linguistik.uzh.ch/en/resources/korpora.html>
- Map: https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/B%C3%BCndnerromanisch#/media/File:Karte_Sprachen_Graub%C3%BCnden.png