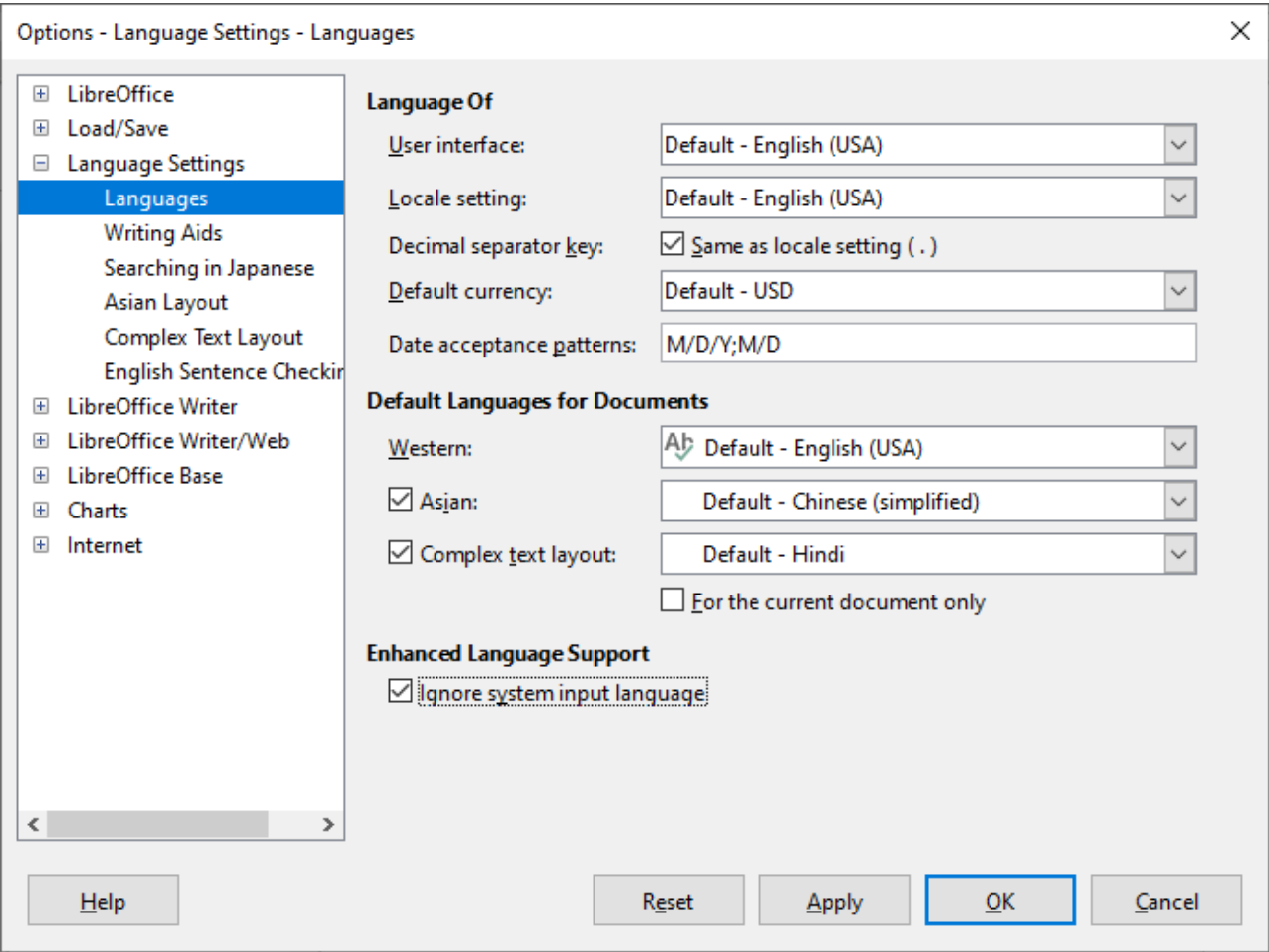


# “Ignore system input language”: Scope, Meaning Unclear

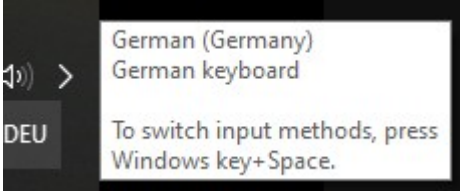
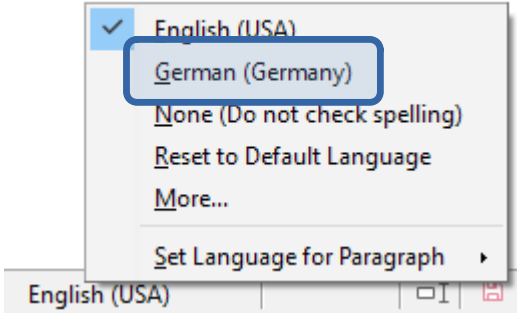

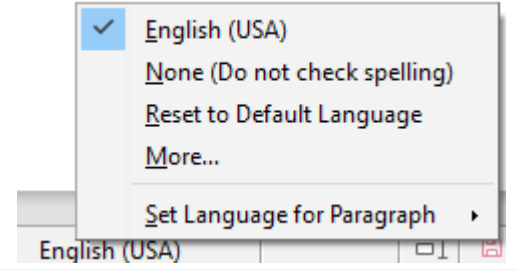
Windows 10, LibreOffice Menu: Tools > Options...



*English* chosen for user interface, locale and as default language for documents, **Ignore...** is checked.

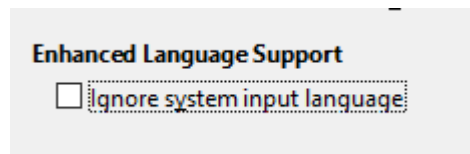
## [Meaning] The input method is never entirely ignored

Writer does not ignore the input method completely. It always makes the language readily available through the menu or the status bar. With the above language settings, this is how **German** becomes available in the example below; no need to look for it through More...

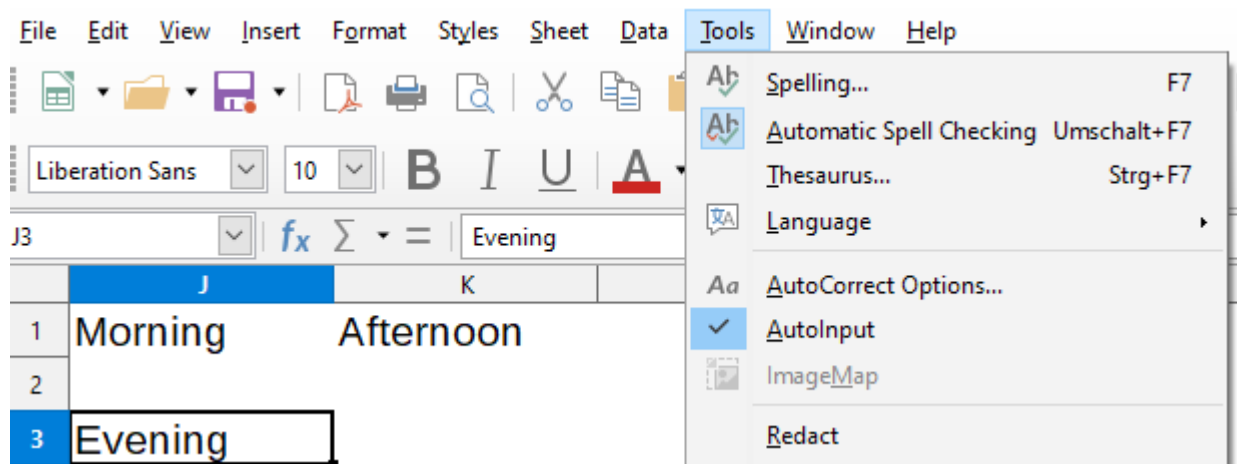
Input Method	Languages available through the status bar
	
	

## [Scope] The position, label of the option imply that it applies to all of LibreOffice, whereas it works only in Writer

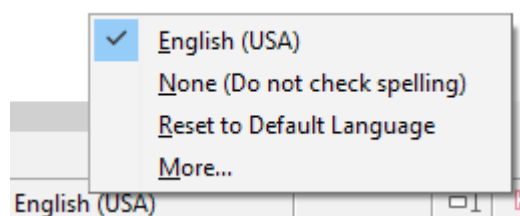
Even when not "ignored" the input method has no effect on Calc.



With German as the input method (reflected in the keyboard shortcuts in the menu below), typing into a spreadsheet does not change the cell language, which remains English. Indeed the spelling check finds no errors in English words.



Furthermore German is not readily available. Now the user has to choose More... to select German.



It seems that [this option was introduced](#) in response to [bug report 36324](#), which is about Writer. It was not acceptable to have the input method set the language automatically (see also [AOO issue 100762](#), especially comment 12).

## How to improve the labels in the first screenshot above

1. Instead of "Ignore system input language" the label could read "*Input method does not change language in Writer*". A better alternative is to **reverse** this option, in which case the label would read "*Input method changes language in Writer*". Why?
  - i. The label should make clear that this option is for Writer only.
  - ii. The label should use standard terminology: "input method" instead of "system input language".
  - iii. This is a clear explanation of what the software does.
2. "Enhanced language support" is an exaggeration for the input method option that follows. It is also unclear: What is enhanced about ignoring the input method or even not ignoring it? I suggest replacing it by "**Change of language in document**" (not "document language", as the latter might mean the language of the entire document).
3. "Language of": Unusual style for a header; "Languages" is better, but given what follows "**Localization**" is an even better alternative.

## Should LibreOffice behave differently?

The first suggestion above, which mentions Writer, reflects how LibreOffice works at present. It may be argued, however, that **all modules should behave similarly**. See the above example for Calc, [bug 127898](#) for Impress, and [bug 34142](#), which makes a general point without mentioning the input method.

As mentioned above, this option is needed because it is not always acceptable to have the input method set the language automatically. According to [bug 108151](#), however, on GNU/Linux or at least Ubuntu the input method *never* changes the language in the document due to technical reasons. Whether or not the input method can change the language, LibreOffice should **make more languages readily available in menus** such as those shown above. In other words, the user should not have to click on More... to choose the language. This should help GNU/Linux users who would like to change the language simply by changing the input method but do not have this possibility. Regardless of the operating system, it would also be very useful to users who need to change the language while preventing the input method from making the change. I should describe this in a future report.