



European Observatory on Plurilingualism



Newsletter N°48 (November-December 2012)

<http://www.observatoireplurilinguisme.eu/>

Translations in [German](#), [English](#), [Bulgarian](#), [Croatian](#), [Spanish](#), [Greek](#), [Italian](#), [Portuguese](#), [Romanian](#) et [Russian](#) available online.

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1) Conclusions on the Conference in Rome

The 3rd European Conference on Plurilingualism was held in Rome at the University La Sapienza from 10th to 12th of October 2012. It was a joint adventure between the European Observatory on Plurilingualism and the Association EuroLinguistica-Sud, on the theme: “Languages without Borders, Plurilingualism” and was presided over by Prof. [Tullio de Mauro](#). It showed that plurilingualism, through its inter- and trans-cultural dimensions warrants linguistic variety, and creativity in all its forms as well as peace.

The Conference led to general and particular conclusions covering items such as education, economy, politics in its national and international dimensions as well as culture.

General Conclusions

We should start with acknowledging that even if the monolingual ideology seems to be an unacceptable simplification of all the viewpoints, it is still the cultural and political horizon of most of the European countries that they express through dynamics that can lead to identity withdrawals or a linguistic hegemony of one language, English. The given arguments today in favour of plurilingualism and the defence of cultural diversity by economists, lawyers, linguists, psychologists, etc. reach only an elite. Our societies stay in the grip of a deep-rooted monolingual representation, historically linked to the constitution of the nation-states - which contradict the examples from Antiquity and many countries around the world - and reinforce the economic crisis with countable logics which could lead to the reduction/disappearance of language teaching.

At the time of globalisation and the emergence of a multi-polar world, namely thanks to the rise of powers of countries such as Brazil, China and India, the solution of a sole *lingua franca* shows more and more its limitations and the major importance of plurilingualism in the present day.

Actions in various directions have to be taken:

- In society: making the representation moves forwards, in raising awareness among the general public, educators, medias without waiting for people who take decisions. In the civil society, there are small breeding-grounds from where booster projects are budding;
- In education and research:
 - Keeping and developing research fields and pluridisciplinary action in interaction

with the territory and spread the results in a capillary manner;

- Campaigning for an interventionist linguistics having an impact on the quality of life and the socio-economic development;
- Decompartmentalizing the subjects and calling on the language and language didactics teachers, so that they offer more efficient alternative ways for training and research;
- Promoting a plurilingual and intercultural education at all levels of the education systems, from kindergartens to higher level;
- Inviting governments to diversify the offer in linguistic teaching from primary schools on and making sure that this diversity of choices is being used;
- Inviting governments to honour their commitments that were taken during the European Council in Barcelona in 2002 of making compulsory the learning of two foreign languages at the end of the second cycle of secondary level;
- Inviting the European Commission to suggest measures allowing a coming back to the scientific publications in other languages than English;
- Inviting universities to help the development of real linguistics policies which would not be only to consolidate the level of English of the students, but to allow the continuation of the learning of a second or even better a third foreign language which may not have been learnt at secondary level.

1. In the field of the economics

- Linguistic diversity and the abilities in languages are and must be considered as a resource for job and competitiveness, and the processing of languages as an unavoidable dimension in the management of international companies;
- The principal of the right to work in the language of the host country has to be applied as a general principal and the linguistic needs have to be adapted to the strategic needs of the companies;
- Action has to be taken in each country to spread the results on research and good practices in the framework of the companies through professional magazines, initial and adult educations.

2. In the field of politics

- European countries have to accept the challenge of migrations whether within Europe and coming from the outside, and to master the integration process in the recognition of the pluralistic identities as a value for the migrating persons and for the societies welcoming them;
- The European Union has to reaffirm its plurilingualism as the foundation of the European citizenship, and draw conclusions;
- The EOP calls to a citizen initiative in the terms of the Lisbon treaty to reinforce the juridical foundations principles of plurilingualism in the running of the institutions.

3. In the field of culture

Nobody would be able to learn all the languages that is why translation plays such a fundamental role in the cultural and scientific transfers. The phenomenon is not new: it is not an exaggeration to say that the Western culture was born out of translation. In this regard, the so-called “Western” science would not be what it is without the contribution of India, China of the Arab world. At a time when we talk about a “de-westernization” of the world, translation has more than ever a central place. At a time when languages are threatened, translation has become a kind of oxygen mask

essential to their survival.

Languages are far from being copies of one another, they all are sources of creative imagination. It is true in the field of the Arts, but also the Humanities and Nature. Far from being simple tools for thinking, they shape the thought.

Without resort to plurilingualism and translation in as many languages as possible, there is no real circulation of knowledge, ideas and imagination, nor - as a consequence - of the understanding the modern and past world with all its richness and diversity.

In the field of cinematographic and audiovisual creation, neo-liberal policies led by many governments since the eighties have led to a weakening of creation. It is important to promote national policies as well as European policies allowing a rebirth of the audiovisual production and European cinemas.

- [Conclusions for culture](#)
- [Conclusions for politics](#)
- [Conclusions for the economy](#)
- [Conclusions pour education](#)

2) Among the [most recent updates of the website](#)

- [L'Italie obtient gain de cause en matière de droits linguistiques](#)
- [The internet is becoming more multilingual: Study](#)
- [Višejezinost: od politike EU-a do uionica \(Konferencija\) - Zagreb, 23.studenog 2012](#)
- [Sauver les langues de l'extinction numérique \(Courrier international\)](#)
- [Educar para a diversidade, a interculturalidade e a paz](#)
- [Une langue, une histoire en partage](#)
- [Meertaligheid en diversiteit \(Taalprofs.com\)](#)
- [Le mauvais tour de Babel \(AgoraVox\)](#)
- [La intraducibilidad \(¿?\) de los grupos sociales](#)
- [Colloque "Traduction des dialectes" 7-8 déc.](#)
- [Plurilingualism by Robert Scarcia](#)
- [Studie: Das Internet wird zunehmend mehrsprachig](#)
- [Circulaire sur la politique des langues AEFÉ : pour une éducation plurilingue](#)
- [Plurilingualism \(Robert Scarcia\)](#)
- [EURid et l'UNESCO dressent le bilan du multilinguisme en ligne](#)
- [Interpretazione dialogica: aspetti teorici, didattici e professionali](#)
- [Le plurilinguisme vu et vécu par Migrilude](#)
- [Ces mots qui meurent. Les langues menacées et ce qu'elles ont à nous dire](#)
- [Falar mais de uma língua é uma questão de sobrevivência](#)
- [Le CSA épingle les médias pour mauvais usage de la langue française](#)
- [Het belang van meertaligheid \(Taalpeil\)](#)
- [Les bonnes pratiques linguistiques dans le monde du travail](#)
- [Cas d'application de la loi Toubon](#)
- [Mujeres, identidad y bilingüismo](#)
- [Libye : Langues étrangères et dictature ne font pas bon ménage](#)
- [Mehrsprachigkeit: Von der EU-Politik ins Klassenzimmer](#)
- [Ces mots qui meurent, les langues menacées et ce qu'elles ont à nous dire](#)
- [Signs of life for foreign-language films in the U.S.](#)
- [Abkhazia: io, preoccupato per la legge sulla lingua](#)
- [Les pratiques théâtrales dans l'apprentissage des langues](#)
- [Multilingual Individuals and Multilingual Societies \(New publication\)](#)
- [Les langues vivantes à la session 2013 du baccalauréat](#)
- [Uma Internet cada vez mais multilingue \(Relatório EURid/UNESCO\)](#)

- [Dictionnaire des écrivains migrants de langue française \(1981-2011\)](#)
- [Ronde Tafel over de status van de taalprofessional](#)
- [¡En Alemania se habla Español! \(Deutsche Welle\)](#)
- [III Symposium internat. "Le multilinguisme dans le cyberspace"](#)
- [Publication "Traduire les droits" \(Dir. Christine Pagnouille\)](#)
- [A Berna si parla inglese...è la fine della Svizzera!](#)
- [La Fabrique européenne des traducteurs : aider les jeunes](#)
- [OIF defends Qatar's admission to French-speaking club](#)
- [Unioeste lança Fórum das Línguas Brasileiras de Imigração](#)
- [Ordonnance de référé CGT contre Danone pour application de la loi Toubon](#)
- [Logopedie bij meertalige kinderen: meertalige logopedie?](#)
- [L'apprentissage de "l'autre langue" est-il devenu un choix de raison ?](#)
- [Vortrag zum Thema „Mehrsprachigkeit und Wirtschaft“ in Bozen](#)
- [A écouter sur France Culture : Le Haut Elfique de Tolkien](#)
- [Meertaligheid steeds belangrijker voor carrière](#)
- [Ecología Lingüística \(Observatorio Atrium Linguarum\)](#)
- [Sénégal : De la nécessité d'une politique plurilingue](#)
- [Zweitsprachigkeit: Leben in zwei Welten](#)
- [Une loi pour rendre obligatoire la VO sous-titrée à la télé](#)
- [I giovani europei e il multilinguismo \(Cittadino europeo\)](#)
- [Estados Unidos y el plurilingüismo \(video\)](#)
- [Un rapport révèle les faibles revenus des traducteurs en Europe](#)
- [Defensor del Pueblo critica falta de multilingüismo de la Comisión para consultas](#)
- [L'apocalypse linguistique aura-t-elle lieu ? \(La Voix de la Russie\)](#)
- [Assise europeee del plurilinguismo all'Università "La Sapienza" di Roma](#)
- [Sapienza, tutela dei diritti linguistici "Risorsa per uscire dalla recessione"](#)
- [Jugement du TGI de Vienne opposant Danone à la CGT](#)

3) Supporting plurilingualism and cultural diversity in [becoming a member of the EOP](#)

The EOP cannot develop its missions of watch and its mutualisation without its members

Since November 2005, the dates of the first Conference in Rome to the 10th - 12th October last, many things have been achieved.

The site has become a reference and we are working on the opening of another website in which the navigation will be easier and the search for documents quicker. The Newsletter which you already know: we try all the time to renew the problematic, to lead the fight for ideas and shake the monolingualist ferula. The "all in English" monolingualism, the monolingualism pushed to the extreme is like a linguistic and cultural straight jacket.

Thank you to accompany the EOP in this enterprise [in becoming a member](#) too. We really need you help.

4) A new cultural trend in the United-States: [les 3%](#)

We share with our partner LEAP (European Laboratory on Political Anticipation), the concern for searching information which is local. We know that the Humanities, considered as non profitable, are often adrift in the American universities and thus are the European ones, as they are completely hypnotised by the models from across the Atlantic. Which explains the multiplications of Masters which are entirely taught in Anglo-American whose only motive is the competition between the universities to attract students, the quality of teaching is not among the criteria for choice, the destinies of all these trainings is to be in line with the mediocrity. A subject of such an importance should be getting a strategic reflection which unfortunately cannot be found, but we wish them well. The EOP published two articles on this matter which question us (Claude Truchot [fr](#) and [de](#), and

[Pierre Frath](#)).

Just an association of ideas: [3%](#) is the number of publications in the United-States are translated documents. It is telling us the self-centred views which reign in this part of the world, and for how long more? This self-centred ideas and the European follow-up-my-leader attitude are one of the aspects of the lack of balance of the present world.

In this part of the world, dominated by the conservative revolution and the ultra-liberalism since the eighties, it was told not long ago that the economic crisis was not possible and that some European parrots were talking about a “happy globalisation” and stated that as soon as 2008 that the “crisis was behind us”, when it was just started.

Regarding this situation, Nature sciences are of course of no help. Humanities neither, they are too annihilated. However they are the only one who can put light on what is lacking nowadays. Re-establishing the critical function and the analytical spirit in our societies is the most urgent thing that we need, the cultural breath that we are denied today. Good luck to the [3%](#) to whom we are holding out our hands.

5) Announcements and publications

- [Dîner-Débat-Concert Mercredi 5 décembre 2012 à Bruxelles](#)
- [L'odyssée d'après Homère de Krystin Vesterälen](#)
- [La clé des langues octobre 2012](#)
- n.1 de la revue Repères-Dorif (<http://www.dorif.it/ezine/>)! Le français dans le contexte plurilingue des Centres Linguistiques Universitaires italiens
- [Le rapport au Parlement sur l'emploi de la langue française 2012](#)
- [Corso di Perfezionamento in Scrittura Web Plurilingue - Spiccare-Lem](#)
- Diversité culturelle et l'Europe créative - 23 octobre 2012. "Europe créative" est le nouveau programme dédié aux secteurs de la culture et de la création que la Commission européenne a proposé le 23 novembre 2011 pour la période 2014-2020. Une conférence [à réécouter](#)
- Conference Internationale Permanente d'Instituts Universitaires de Traducteurs et Interprètes (CUITI), Nations Unies, Genève, 17-18 janvier 2013. [Pour en savoir plus](#)
- [Beyond French New Languages for African Diasporic Literature](#) Du 29 mars 2013 au 30 mars 2013, Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA
- [Revue Internationale d'Études en Langues Modernes Appliquées n°6/2012](#), appel à contribution, date limite 1er mars 2013
- [Lancement de la version multilingue du calendrier des LSHS](#)
- [Sprachenbewusstheit im Fremdsprachenunterricht](#)
- [Rapport au Parlement sur l'emploi de la langue française 2012](#)
- [The Poetics of Multilingualism – La Poétique du plurilinguisme](#), appel à communication, date limite 31 décembre 2012
- [Lengua, cultura y política en la historia de la traducción en Hispanoamérica](#), Editorial Academia del Hispanismo, Vigo, 2012
- [Sesta edizione delle Giornate dei Diritti Linguistici](#)
- [Chaque enfant peut réussir en langues \(Appel à communication\)](#), date limite 15 décembre 2012
- [NET.LANG : Réussir le cyberspace multilingue](#), une publication du réseau Maaya
- [New publication : Multilingualism and Creativity](#), Anatolij V. Kharkhurin, 2012
- [Le français dans le contexte plurilingue des Centres Universitaires italiens](#), Actes des Journées d'études des 18-19 février 2011 à Bologne (CILTA- Università di Bologna, CLA – Università di Macerata, CLA – Università di Perugia, CLIFU – Università di Torino) - coordonné par Mathilde Anquetil
- [Identités, langages et cultures d'entreprise : La cohésion dans la diversité ?](#), Euromed

Marseille, 20-22 mars 2013, appel à communication, date limite 12 décembre 2012

- [Parution : Le double en traduction ou l'\(impossible ?\) entre-deux, vol. 2](#), coordonné par [Michaël Mariaule](#), Université Charles-de-Gaulle Lille 3, et [Corinne Wecksteen](#), Université d'Artois, [Artois Presses Université](#)

6) [Read again the former newsletters of the EOP, click here](#)

A PHONIC METHOD

By "opening up" your ear to the target language's frequencies and naturally changing your voice in real time, the exclusive and patent-protected SpeedLingua process provides linguistic training professionals with a solution that quickly improves their students' oral skills and integrates seamlessly into their range of courses.

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