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La Lettre de l'OEP N°58 (mars-avril 2015)

<http://www.observatoireplurilinguisme.eu>

Translated by Sylvie Aubert

Editorial : The wrong way

We are no theatre or film critic so that what follows is no critic of Sophocles' *Antigone*, directed by Ivo van Hove as part of the [Tandem Paris-Londres](#).

Nevertheless we share the embarrassment of the beautiful [Juliette Binoche](#), who plays the role in English, when she answered the questions of Stéphane Capron on France Inter on 26 February at 18h43.

What she exactly said is this : “I have been **working the European way** for a long time. What **they say** is that a language is the English language. We **have to submit** to that idea, that English is **the way to communicate for all of us who are of different origins.**”

How sweet it is to hear that some “they” ignore the foundations of the European Union synthesized by the motto “United in diversity”, as well as the linguistic practices current in the representative institutions of the European Union where English, though certainly over-represented, is not the only language used.

However all the lobbies and pressure groups gravitating around the European institutions do have a special manner “to work the European way”, probably the way mentioned by Juliette Binoche. Their links with the Europeans, citizens of the European countries, are loose, to say the least.

Besides, “they” – an abstract, anonymous entity – believe that to share the great European myth of *Antigone* (with whom ? Probably the whole world), nothing is better than English.

“They” do not seem to make a difference between ordering a taxi and the language of the great dramatist of Greek Antiquity. For “them”, language is nothing but a tool that we should be able to change as we change our i-phone cover. It is evident that if it were as easy to follow Sophocles' play in English as it is to book a hotel room, there should be, according to Eurostat, a good quarter of the Europeans able to understand snatches of it. But if Sophocles' language is not this airport language, then things are wrong. Only a small élite (but which one ?) can afford this luxury.

Therefore, according to our hypothesis, Ivo van Hove's show is not a world show (the show itself, not the play which did not wait for this to be played by hundreds of theatre companies in our towns and villages, this is what makes it universal). Supposing it is a world show, it is not due to the fact that it is in English but to the simple fact that it is subheaded, a detail “they” forgot to dictate to Juliette Binoche.->

Editing and writing: Christian Tremblay

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-> The works become known worldwide from the moment when they are translated into the languages of the world.

Do you know, dear reader, which work has been most translated throughout the world ? It is the [Holy Bible](#). The Holy Bible has been translated into nearly 4,000 languages, which shows that the missionary monks knew what communication meant. With Latin (we are told that English is “modern Latin” !), they did not stand a chance. Yes, the monks knew how to communicate but apparently, “they” have not a clue.

“They” are akin to the European Broadcasting Union team who organised the debate in [Eurovision on 15 May 2014](#) during the campaign for the presidency of the European Commission. This team wanted...->

<p>-> to impose English on all the candidates, which would have had the effect that only English-speakers would have heard non-English speaking candidates speaking in their language. We know that eventually Jean-Claude Juncker refused this pressure and chose to express himself in one of his three mother tongues, French, and that Alexis Tsipras expressed himself in Greek. All these speeches were of course interpreted. This is elementary good sense with strong symbolic value.</p> <p>Let us not stray. You well understand that we are not criticizing a show but the communication about this show. What matters for us here is not so much that it is communication about a show as the fact that this communication conveys all the clichés that are being hurled constantly at us in the media, fortunately with some exceptions.</p> <p>Finally, our favourite formula is the last one : “We have to submit to that idea...”, because anybody refusing to submit, to bow, so to say, (and before whom, but “Them” !) would be in trouble. Because this narrow-minded individual is not good enough to assert his old-fashioned ideas, to express himself, to go to the theatre, especially when it shows disobedience – <i>Antigone</i>’s disobedience –...-></p>	<p>to read the poets, to find information, to inquire, to search, to vote perhaps ? Do you understand ? “They” are nothing but small tyrants, no, not small, big tyrants. The Italian writer Raffaele Simone found a beautiful title to name “Them” : <i>The Soft Monster</i> (2010).”They” have not yet restored the census suffrage to stop anybody not worthy of it to speak and to vote. Actually it is not necessary because it has been done ages ago. “They” only need to control the media. That remains to be seen.</p> <p>Good luck then to this <i>Antigone</i> and may it be subheaded in all the languages of the world... and good luck to all the others !</p> <p>◀</p>
<p>The reform of secondary school : a bad blow for foreign languages ?</p> <p>We are not going to criticise here the draft reform of secondary school proposed by Najat Vallaud-Belkacem. Nonetheless, amid good things and even very good things to tackle the alarming situation of the French educative system, the linguistic aspect is frightening.</p> <p>The Ministry of Education has no doubt improved its art to present as a step forward what is in fact a big step backward.</p> <p>What really mattered was to get the message across. Learning the second foreign language will start one year earlier, in the second year instead of the third. The earlier you learn, so they say, the faster and the better you learn. This is magic, the Ministry can then do without bilingual and European classes, not saying so of course, but doing it anyway.</p> <p>In other words, the changes will take place, with the same number of hours as the Ministry wished at first : starting in the second year meant doing in three years what was formerly done in two years, the weekly hours going from 3 to 2. Nevertheless, this minimal proposition caused such a public outcry that 2 hours and a half are now proposed, which are notably insufficient (all our neighbours give more hours for the learning of the second foreign language). And at the same time, in the first year, the first foreign language loses 1 hour a week. If we add all the hours in the four years, for the first and second foreign language, we get 18 hours more than before ! But this is the common situation. Today a pupil in a bilingual class has 864 hours in four years, he would lose 198 hours... As for the European sections, they have 2 more hours a week in the third and fourth year : over four years, the pupils who could have entered these classes will lose 144 hours and the pupils who could have entered bilingual classes in the first and second year and then European sections in the third and fourth year, will lose no less than 342 hours...-></p>	<p>To sum things up, this draft reform :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) weakens the first foreign language, that is English, in the first year because there is 1 hour less. 2) weakens the second foreign language because it is an illusion to believe that the same result will be reached with 2h and a half a week over three years than with 3h a week over two years. For 2 hours of weekly teaching to have an effect on the pupils’ progress, a strong personal commitment is needed. With 2 hours a week, the knowledge level is only maintained. 3) means the end of diversity in language teaching. The bilingual classes, apart from their specific interest, have the advantage to create continuity with primary school classes when these use a language other than English. If the bilingual classes are suppressed, this continuity will disappear and the primary schools with a language other than English that had started to develop will disappear. When the families choose a language other than English, it does not mean that they refuse English, it means that they wish their children to achieve the best level in a language other than English. <p>-></p>

-> This freedom of choice is now denied them. The choice of a language other than English and later the choice of a bilingual class is not the fact of an élite. This is the choice of families who have understood the importance of languages for the future of their children. More and more families are aware of this and make this choice. What is needed is not their suppression but their extension so that more families can benefit from them. In suppressing these classes that were a success in public schools, the access to languages is denied and the “élites” will choose private schools.

How can we make the Ministry of Education see reason ?

Maybe the parents should mobilise in the face of such incomprehension ? Maybe the example of the New York families should be followed : they obtained for the Mayor of New York the opening of numerous bilingual classes.>

-> In the meantime, those wanting to express their concern can sign two petitions that you can access from [this address](#).

This article was hardly finished when the Minister, Najat Vallaud-Belkacem, published [on her website](#) a correction that alters the disastrous effect of her press conference. Roughly she says the same thing that we wrote in this article. It is rather confusing but let us hope for the best. It means however that we should maintain our efforts.



Articles not to be missed

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Please respect the use of French ! The French section of the association of European journalists ([AJE – France](#)) wrote a letter on 20 Mars 2015, on this [Internationale Day of Francophonie](#), to some European officials, among them Jean-Claude Juncker (European Commission), Federica Mogherini (High-level representative) and Donald Tusk (European Council) to alert them of the fact that French is being abandoned in the communication of the European Commission, of the European Service of external action and of the European Council. «This situation worries us considerably», they say.

[Read more](#)

Published on the [blog d'Educpros.fr "Chroniques de diplomatie universitaire"](#)

By Guillaume Tronchet, 5 March 2015

COURSES IN ENGLISH IN UNIVERSITY EDUCATION has been one of the most discussed subject during the debates about the Fioraso law in 2013. « If we do not allow courses in English, we will not attract students from emerging countries such as South Korea or India. And there will be five of us discussing Proust around a table, even if I like Proust... », had then provocatively said the Minister of Higher Education. The publishing a week ago by the Japan Student Services Organization of the **annual data about the presence of international students in Japanese higher education in 2014** allows by comparison to see the impact that such a measure has had in a country with a strong monolingual tradition, as we have in France, where a policy in favour of the emergence of **some great university centres of international level**.

[Read more](#)

Tweetalige kinderen in Limburg niet belast door dialect

Kennislink.nl, maandag 9 februari 2015

Kinderen die veel Limburgse dialectwoorden gebruiken, lijken daar geen hinder van te ondervinden. Voor hun Nederlandse woordenschat is het in ieder geval niet nadelig. Dat blijkt uit onderzoek onder tweetalige dialect-Nederlandssprekende kinderen in Limburg, uitgevoerd door de Universiteit van Maastricht en het Meertens Instituut. door **Mathilde Jansen**

[Meer lezen](#)

El deseo de trabajar en Alemania impulsa el aprendizaje de alemán

plurilinguismoeducativo.com, 30 enero 2015

El alemán es ya la segunda lengua más estudiada de España. Cerca de 100.000 personas están aprendiendo este idioma en España, la mayoría porque quiere un empleo en el país germano. [Leer más](#)

Plurilingüismo y las ventajas neurocognitivas del aprendizaje de otras lenguas

Conferencia de Maria Jesús Frigols, Año 2015. [Escuchar >>>](#)

BERNA - Per un vero plurilinguismo a difesa della coesione nazionale. E' questo il titolo della nuova

projet de connaissance global, dont la légitimité soit reconnue comme incontestable, à l'égal des sciences de la vie, de la nature ou des disciplines logico-formelles....

Dates à retenir

1er mars 2015 : Soumission des propositions (1 page, de 1500 à 2500 signes, espaces comprises) à envoyer aux organisateurs: astrid.guillaume@paris-sorbonne.fr et frastier@gmail.com

30 mars 2015 : Validation ou non de la proposition transmise.

15 avril 2015 : Clôture des préinscriptions.

4 mai 2015 : Journée d'études, Maison de la recherche de l'Université Paris Sorbonne, salle 035.

[Tout savoir](#)

Théorie générale de la recherche en didactique des langues-cultures

Essai. À propos d'un article d'Albert DAVID : « La recherche intervention, un cadre général pour les sciences de gestion ? »

PUREN_2015a_Théorie_recherche_DLC_v01.2. Document Adobe Acrobat [1.3 MB] [Télécharger](#)

2^{ème} Journée Franco-Allemande

de la Formation Professionnelle et de l'Apprentissage

Mercredi, le 15 avril 2015 de 9h30 à 17h00

ALLIANZ France (87, rue Richelieu, 75002 Paris)

Au programme :

Le plein emploi des jeunes en Europe est-il possible ? Quelles mesures concrètes ?

Les pratiques de la formation professionnelle et de l'apprentissage sont-elles adaptées aux nouveaux enjeux économiques ?

Nous avons le plaisir d'accueillir :

Monsieur François REBSAMEN, Ministre du Travail, de l'Emploi, de la Formation professionnelle et du Dialogue social,

Monsieur Jörg ASMUSSEN, Secrétaire d'Etat au Ministère fédéral du Travail et des Affaires sociales d'Allemagne,

Monsieur Harlem Désir*, Secrétaire d'Etat aux Affaires européennes auprès du ministre des Affaires étrangères et du Développement international
** sous réserve*

[Tout le programme en ligne](#) [Inscription en ligne](#)

Contact : Margarete RIEGLER-POYET, Directrice du service Formations,
Mail : event@francoallemand.com



Enquête concernant les méthodologies actives et l'apprentissage par problèmes en langues de spécialité effectuée par le GERE (Groupe d'Étude et de Recherche en Espagnol de Spécialité)

Cette enquête est destinée à tous les enseignants de langues étrangères de l'Enseignement Supérieur Français dans toutes ses composantes. Toutes les langues sont donc concernées. Indépendamment de l'expérience des collègues sur les thèmes analysés, ce qui compte pour cette étude c'est LEUR AVIS PERSONNEL. prévue pour être faite en une dizaine de minutes est accessible à [cette adresse](#).



Décerné depuis 1981 par la Société française des traducteurs (SFT) avec le concours de l'École Supérieure d'Interprètes et de Traducteurs (ESIT), le **Prix Pierre-François Caillé** de la traduction récompense chaque année un traducteur d'édition en début de carrière. Il est doté de 2 000 euros.

Pour l'édition 2015, les éditeurs sont invités à proposer des œuvres littéraires de fiction ou de non-fiction (y compris les ouvrages de poésie, théâtre, bande dessinée, vulgarisation scientifique et technique) traduites en français et publiées au cours de l'année 2014.

[Pour en savoir plus](#)

	<p style="text-align: center;">A necessity : learning the language at school</p> <p>In a note published recently, <i>France Stratégie</i> shows how much the children of immigrant parents have more difficulties than others, incomes being equal and social classes being equivalent, to obtain employment. School has no doubt, the study asserts, its share of responsibility.</p> <p>More</p>
	<p>First World Congress of Linguistic Rights 14th International Conference of the International Academy of Linguistic Law. 9th Days of Linguistic Rights</p> <p>More</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Newsletter LEM-Italia & PELDI_44_Marzo 2015</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assemblea Ordinaria Associazione LEM-Italia - 99 domande sulla Diversità Linguistica a Siena - AbruzzofilmDoc - Uno sguardo sulle culture periferiche" - 50 anni di SUSLLF (Società Universitaria di Studi di Lingua e Letteratura Francese) - Riflessioni sulle ricchezze di un'Italia "minoritaria". <p>L'esperienza dell'UNIBEtà Terre del Cerrano di Silvi Marina in visita a Villa Badessa, oasi orientale arbëresh in Abruzzo</p> <p>Scarica il pdf di questa Newsletter</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Call of participation for the 3rd celebration of multilingualism Thessaloniki 2015</p> <p>The Municipality of Thessaloniki in association with ΔΕΠΘΕ are inviting you to participate to the 3rd Celebration of Multilingualism-Language Itineraries, Thessaloniki, Multilingual city, 2015, on 22nd-23rd-24th May 2015.</p> <p>More...</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">25/5/2015 Conference "De quoi l'enfant bilingue est-il capable ?" "What is the bilingual child capable of ?" Table-ronde ouverte à tous "Grandir avec deux langues" Université Paris-Descartes</p> <p>More</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">« Recherche et traduction »</p> <p>Appel à contribution, Calenda, Publié le mercredi 26 novembre 2014 Date limite : le 30 avril 2015</p> <p>Dans le domaine des études en langues et civilisations étrangères, nombreux sont les chercheurs qui pratiquent la traduction, soit par nécessité, soit par intérêt ; nombreux aussi sont les traducteurs qui réfléchissent, outre aux questions concrètes susceptibles d'être soulevées au cours de la traduction, sur l'aspect théorique ou esthétique de l'œuvre qu'ils traduisent. Cette situation est vraie pour tous ceux qui travaillent dans et entre les langues. Mais ces travaux de traduction effectués par des chercheurs sont souvent menés d'une manière « automatique », sans que les considérations systématiques soient menées sur les rapports complexes et problématiques qu'entretiennent l'acte de traduction et celui de la recherche.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">In Paris, a museum to discover the languages of the world</p> <p>The language plays a central role in our lives, even in our dreams. The 170m²-wide permanent exhibition MUNDOLINGUA invites you to discover the secrets of language during an unusual visit with many different themes. 10 rue Servandoni – 75006 Paris - tél. +33 (0)1 56 81 65 79</p>

	<p>http://www.mundolingua.org/ - contact@mundolingua.org</p> <p>Ouvert tous les jours de 10h – 19h</p> <p><i>Such a beautiful project is worth some support. You can become a donator our our partner Mundolingua, Museum of Languages, Language and Linguistics.</i></p> <p><u>More</u></p>
 	<p align="center">Politiques européennes des langues et priorités nationales (Séminaire annuel du CELV)</p> <p>Les 12 et 13 février a eu lieu le séminaire annuel du Centre européen pour les langues vivantes (CELV) "Politiques européennes des langues et priorités nationales", séminaire organisé par la délégation aux relations européennes et internationales et à la coopération (ministère de l'éducation nationale, de l'enseignement supérieur et de la recherche), la délégation générale à la langue française et aux langues de France (ministère de la culture et de la communication) et le Centre international d'études pédagogiques (CIEP).</p> <p>Le compte rendu du séminaire est publié dans le <u>n° 33 du Courriel européen des langues</u> qui vient de paraître.</p> <p>On peut également consulter les présentations (diaporamas) des intervenants sur le site du CIEP à <u>cette adresse</u>.</p>
	<p align="center">La Fondation Stendhal lance une action solidaire en faveur du plurilinguisme et de la francophonie.</p> <p>L'université Stendhal - Grenoble 3 a lancé en juin 2014 sa fondation pour favoriser le déploiement de projets innovants dans le domaine des langues et contribuer au rayonnement de la francophonie.</p> <p>À la pointe en matière d'ingénierie, de méthodes et d'équipement pédagogiques dans l'enseignement des langues et des cultures, l'université Stendhal développe une activité de recherche et propose à tous des formations variées dans ce domaine.</p> <p>Lire le <u>communiqué</u></p>
	<p>Année universitaire 2014-2015 – Research Seminar</p> <p align="center">Politiques linguistiques et plurilinguisme <i>Linguistic policies and plurilingualism</i></p> <p>The Université Paris Diderot-Paris 7 and the Observatoire européen du plurilinguisme organise, in collaboration with the British Council, a research seminar dedicated to linguistic policies in plurilingual countries.</p> <p>Next and last sessions : 10 April and 15 MaY 2015</p> <p><u>Program and registration</u></p>
	<p align="center">Sprache, Gesellschaft und Nation in Ostmitteleuropa Institutionalisierung und Alltagspraxis</p> <p>edited by Klaas-Hinrich Ehlers, Marek Nekula, Martina Niedhammer and Hermann Scheuringer</p> <p>English summary: Language has an immense effect on society - and vice versa. Language reflects social relations and also functions as an instrument of interpretation and power. In the development <u>show more >>>></u></p>
	<p align="center">43ème Congrès de l'UPLEGESS EM Strasbourg Business School - 27-30 mai 2015</p> <p>L'Europe est-elle un mythe ou une réalité, une nécessité historique ou une</p>

	<p>utopie politique, un ensemble achevé ou bien une construction en devenir ? Quel que soit le point de vue d'où l'on se place, force est de constater que la multiplicité linguistique a toujours été une composante intrinsèque de l'histoire européenne, et pour certains, même, le véritable levier de la modernité qui aurait été stimulée à la fin du Moyen-Âge par l'émancipation des langues populaires face à la lingua franca des élites politiques et religieuses.</p> <p>Calendrier</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 février 2015 : Date limite de réception des propositions de contribution • 15 mars 2015 : Réponses du comité scientifique • 15 avril 2015 : Date limite de réception des documents définitifs pour les Actes • 27/30 mai 2015 : Tenue du 43^e congrès UPLEGESS à EM Strasbourg Business School <p>Pour en savoir plus : Site de l'UPLEGESS</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">RIELMA : How be a translator/interpreter ?</p> <p>Release of the 7th issue of <i>Revue Internationale d'Études en Langues Modernes Appliquées (RIELMA)</i> and of the supplement, also available online : http://lett.ubbcluj.ro/rielma/RIELMA_no7_2014.pdf et http://lett.ubbcluj.ro/lett/RIELMA_no7_2014_Supplement_16</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Keep in mind that we need your support. Click here!</p> <p>RIELMA is an international review of multilingual and interdisciplinary studies on translation, conference interpretation, and on disciplines and professions of intercultural communication.</p>
 <p>Observatoire international des droits linguistiques</p> <p>Bulletin d'information</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Revue de droit linguistique</p> <p>L'Observatoire est fier d'annoncer la création de la <i>Revue de droit linguistique</i> (www.droitslinguistiques.ca/revue). Elle contient des articles évalués par les pairs et est offerte gratuitement en format numérique depuis notre site Web ainsi que sur le site Web bien connu du monde juridique de Hein Online. Les articles seront publiés dès qu'ils auront satisfaits aux critères d'une révision par les pairs et nous bouclerons le volume à la fin de l'année. Par conséquent, nous publierons un volume par année, lequel se construira au fur et à mesure que des textes y seront publiés.</p> <p>Pour en savoir plus</p>
 <p>INFOLING</p> <p>Información lingüística y sociolingüística hispánica</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Pseudo-English. Studies on False Anglicisms in Europe</p> <p>Furiassi, Cristiano; Gottlieb, Henrik, eds. 2015, Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton (Colección: Language Contact and Bilingualism, 9. Formato: Hardcover, 287 págs., ISBN-13: 9781614516712. Precio: 99,95 EUR, USD 140.00)</p> <p>This volume focuses on how English, through false Anglicisms, influences several European languages, including Italian, Spanish, French, German, Danish and Norwegian. Studies on false Gallicisms are also included, thus showing how English may be affected by false borrowings.</p> <p>Compra-e Información en la web de Infoling</p>
	<p>For the first time in its history, on the occasion of its 90th birthday, la Cité internationale universitaire de Paris organises a « Peace Université » to emphasize the value of the Cité. This event will take place from 21 to 23 May 2015 with the theme</p> <p style="text-align: center;">« Living together in cultural diversity »</p> <p>A theme which, after the tragic events of January 2015, has even more meaning and relevance.</p> <p>Voir le programme provisoire</p>