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(Information *for* Interlinguists)

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# I EVENTS

## 1 INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF LINGUISTS, 2024-09-8/14

The *International Congress of Linguists* organized by the *Comité International Permanent des Linguistes* (CIPL), which takes place every 5 years, will take place this year in Poznań, Poland at the Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza. As part of it, a workshop interlinguistics will take place.

More information [here](#).

## 2 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES (I-CONLANGS II), 2024-07-4/5

### 2.1 *Organizers*

Guillaume Enguehard (Université d'Orléans), Philippe Planchon (Université de Tours) and Alice Ray (Université d'Orléans)

#### 2.1.1 *Venue*

Orléans (France)

### 2.2 *Topic*

Constructed languages: international auxiliary languages (auxlangs), mainly Esperanto; fictional languages (in literature, cinema, video games, etc.) and languages with pedagogical, logical, or experimental aims.

### 2.3 *Description*

The International Conference on Constructed Languages (I-CONlangs II) is taking place for the second year (which first took place in Torin in 2022), which aims to offer a forum dedicated to multi-disciplinary research on constructed languages.

The creation of a constructed language may have various purposes, but their study reveals a common set of questions, which the I-CONLANG II 2024 intends to address. Here is a non-exhaustive list of research questions:

- the different purposes of constructed languages and the means used to achieve them
- the various (or not) linguistic resources used in the context of constructed languages

- the specific constraints encountered in the creation and/or the use of a constructed language
- the social and cultural implications of constructed languages
- the project development on creating constructed languages as well as its symbolic, psychological, sociological and historical outcomes
- the challenges and limitations of such languages
- the differences or similarities between constructed languages and natural languages

To best reflect the diversity of constructed languages, the conference will be organized across three lecture sessions (in line with the Gnoli Triangle):

1. session about auxiliary languages, mainly about Esperanto
2. session on fictional languages (in literature, cinema, video games, etc.)
3. session on constructed languages with pedagogical, logical or experimental aims

An additional poster session will be organized to present the creation of new constructed languages, and we invite all conlangers to send us their proposal accordingly, whether they are students, researchers, or any person who works outside of the academic field.

More information [here](#).

### **3 9TH NITOBE SYMPOSIUM, 2023-07-28/29**

Recently, a [YouTube video](#), documenting the symposium was released.

See also *Ipl* 123-124, I.1 and III.2 this issue.

## II ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

### 1 ERAMUS+ PROJECT FOR LANGUAGE LEARNING SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED

The project *TestU Online – free portal of tests for education* financed by the European Commission from 2021 to 2023, has been completed. It achieved its goal to create free, multi-lingual online platform with exercises and tests for foreign-language learning. The project was led and coordinated by the non-governmental youth organization *Edukado ĉe Intereto* (Education@Internet or E@I) from Slovakia. Other contributing partners were *bit Schulungszentrum* in Austria, *Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu* in Poland, *Vilniaus universitetas* in Lithuania, and *Universität Leipzig* in Germany. Containing many widely-spoken languages (and among those even minority languages such as Lower Sorbian, Welsh, and Esperanto), this project truly achieves the European Commission's goals for supporting multilingualism. The platform not only offers a huge number of already-prepared exercises and tests to practice vocabulary, grammar, listening and reading comprehension in the available languages with the help of texts, pictures, and video but in addition gives language teachers without technical expertise the means to create content for their own needs.

### 2 AGREEMENT FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN VYTAUTO DIDŽIOJO UNIVERSITETAS AND THE LITHUANIAN ESPERANTO ASSOCIATION

On 6 December 2023, the rector of the university, Prof. Juozas Augutis and the president of the Lithuanian Esperanto Association (LEA) signed an agreement in Kaunas, Lithuania.

## III CULTURE

### 1 THE ESPERANTO COLLECTION AT THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF POLAND

An important moment for the continued preservation of the cultural heritage of Esperanto was the transfer of the *Biblioteko Hector Hodler* (the Hector Hodler Library, which had been the collection of the *Universala Esperanto-Asocio*, the World Esperanto Association) to the National Library of Poland. The solemn occasion took place 29 May 2023 in the presence of the president of the UEA, Dr. Duncan Charters; the director of the National Library, Dr. Tomaz Makowski; and the then-Minister of Culture and National Heritage, Professor Gliński (see the report in IpI 123-124, pg. 18-21). Thanks to the agreement between the National Library and UEA, approximately 7.5 tons of books and unique materials were transported from the library and archive at UEA's headquarters in Rotterdam to Warsaw.

#### 1.1 Searching in the catalog

However, that does not signify the beginning of the Esperanto collection in Warsaw. Already before the transfer, the Polish capital was proud of some of the most interesting collections that document the start and evolution of the *Lingvo Internacia* and the Esperanto movement. The texts already held in the Esperanto collection are searchable via the catalog of the National

The screenshot shows a search results page for 'esperanto' in the PHB catalog. The search bar at the top contains 'esperanto' and includes filters for 'zawierające frazę w' and 'całym opisie'. Below the search bar, there are navigation options like 'Wybrano 0 STRONA 1 1-10 z 2826 (liczba wyników)'. The main content area displays four search results:

- 1** PUBLIKACJA ELEKTRONICZNA **Esperanto / Education@Internet.** Education@Internet cop. 2008 | Białystok : Agora Biblioteka Narodowa Magazyn Książek (EE I 3.224 A) i inne lokalizacje >
- 2** KSIĄŻKA **Esperanto / John Cresswell and John Hartley.** Cresswell, John Autor | Hartley, John (1921-1962) Autor | Hodder & Stoughton Wydawca 1970 | London : Teach Yourself Books **Sprawdź dostępność** >
- 3** KSIĄŻKA **Esperanto / Nadija Hawryluk ; tłumaczenie z j. ukraińskiego Tadeusz Karabowicz.** Gavriluk, Nadia Ivanivna (1979- ) Autor | Karabowicz, Tadeusz (1959- ) Tłumaczenie | Wydawnictwo Episteme Wydawca 2017 | Lublin : Wydawnictwo Episteme Biblioteka Narodowa Magazyn Książek (3.015.216 A) i inne lokalizacje >
- 4** CZASOPISMO **Jarlibro de la Internacia Esperanto-Ligo.** Internacia Esperanto-Ligo. Instytucja sprawcza Wydawca | Światowy Związek Esperantystów Instytucja sprawcza Wydawca 1937- | Herongate ; Rickmansworth : Internacia Esperanto-Ligo | 1937-.

FIGURE 1.1 Example from the PHB catalog



FIGURE 1.2 Example of items in the PNB collection

Library of Poland, which is available in a few languages. It’s worth nothing, that to search the texts, it’s necessary to strictly adhere to Esperanto orthography as unfortunately, the *Ikso* or *x*-system for representing special Esperanto characters (such as *cx* instead of *ĉ*) does not work well.

It’s also worth noting that a small part of the currently-held collection is already digitized and can be both viewed and downloaded online, at the website *Polona*, part of the National Library – see Fig. 1.2.

## 1.2 The challanges of the Hector Hodler library

Almost simultaneously with the solemn transfer of UEA’s treasured collection to Warsaw, the cataloging of the collection began. That is an enormous challenge, as we are speaking about an enormous collection never before cataloged or worked on in detail. As a result, they have to do everything from scratch, according to the standards of the National Library, adding details to the catalog not only about information easily attainable (ex. the location and year of the particular book’s publication) but also other more complicated matters, such as the year of the first edition in its original language (if it’s a translation) and its title. See Fig. 1.3.

Regarding in-print books, this type of information is easily attainable online. It’s a completely different situation when one has to catalog books published just after the birth of Esperanto in 1887. Often these are books were published and circulated only in some small region, published in small print runs. Thus, the cataloging is a huge challenge but it is progressing, step by step. The first parts of the *Biblioteko* are already available in the catalog. For example, one can already find, among others, the Armenian edition of the *Fundamento de Esperanto* (““Foundation of Esperanto”, the core basis for the language) from 1911 and even the earlier *El la vivo de esperantistoj* (“From the life of Esperantists”), which was published in 1896. But evidently, not missing newer items like the third edition of *Sed nur fragmento* (“But only a fragment”), the Esperanto novel by Trevor Steele from 2020, or the beautifully illustrated children’s book



Szczegóły	
<b>Tytuł</b>	Aŭtobiografio de bakterio / Gaŭ Ŝiĉji.
<b>Twórca</b>	Gao, Shiqi (1905-1988) Autor >
<b>Inny tytuł</b>	Tytuł oryginału: Jun'er zizhuan, 1936. Tytuł oryginału: 菌儿自传, 1936.
<b>Opis fizyczny</b>	[6], 108, [2] strony : fotografie ; 19 cm.
<b>Wydanie</b>	Unua eldono.
<b>Wydawca</b>	Pekino : Cina Esperanto-Eldonejo
<b>Data publikacji</b>	1986
<b>Forma i typ</b>	Książki Proza
<b>Odbiorca</b>	Grupa wiekowa 9-13 lat
<b>Przynależność kulturowa</b>	Literatura chińska
<b>Temat</b>	Badania naukowe > Bakterie > Ciało ludzkie > Higiena >
<b>Gatunek</b>	Powieść
<b>Język</b>	esperanto

FIGURE 1.3 Example of PNB catalog entries

*Novulo en la urbo* (“A New Person in the City”) from 2021.

Somewhat like the hero of the last mentioned book, I am a new person in the library field. Beginning my work in the National Library, I learned to utilize my experience from many years of Internet searching and publishing papers, with an abundant use of online sources. That enabled me to quickly understand at least that aspect of library cataloging. But I had to learn a lot from scratch and I am still learning. Adding some concrete piece of information to the catalog, it's necessary to describe it in detail in accordance with relevant standards. It is necessary to also classify it, categorizing it under a specific literature type, with publication in or from the relevant language, highlighting its approach to the given topic, etc. In that way, every individual book does not signify an addition of only a single entry in the library collection, but also spreads out the variety of books dealing with some specific topic, the presentation of a specific language or region, etc. That is for me the most fascinating challenge: to learn by the cataloged books about the world and people and, to the best of my ability, provide that information to others, making the book well-edited and easily searchable.

*Gabriela Skonieczna*

## **2 DECLARATION OF THE CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION ON WORLD LANGUAGE PROBLEMS (CED) ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS**

On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 10 December 1948, the Centre for Research and Documentation on World Language Problems (CED) emphasises the historical importance of this declaration and draws attention to the fundamental role of language in defining, protecting and advancing universal human rights.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights explicitly prohibits discrimination based on language concerning all the rights enumerated in the Declaration. These include equal protection under the law; prevention of arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home, or correspondence; freedom of expression (including the right to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas through any media and without regard to borders); equal access to public services in one's own country; and the economic, social, and cultural rights essential for personal dignity and free personality development. Additionally, the Declaration acknowledges the precedence of parents in choosing the type of education provided to their children. Yet it remains the case that language is very often the basis for unequal recognition and protection of people's human rights. Speakers of minority languages are much more likely to experience denial or curtailment of these rights on the basis of language.

While the Declaration remains a milestone in the development of universal human rights standards, much remains to be done. There have been consistent and frequent calls for enhanced United Nations measures to improve the acknowledgement and safeguarding of minority human rights, given the worsening human rights conditions experienced by numerous minority groups globally. While supporting such efforts, for example, the Draft Global Convention on the Rights of Minorities, we affirm that linguistic human rights also require the adoption, in every jurisdiction, of inclusive, equitable language policies that should be regularly monitored and evaluated.

Up-to-date insights and recommendations on enhancing the implementation of linguistic human rights were shared and discussed by various international experts, both academics and civil society representatives, at the 9th Nitobe Symposium, organised by CED at the University of Turin, Italy, on 28-29 July 2023. A video summary of the symposium is available [here](#).

10 December 2023

## **3 ARTICLE BY MICHELE GAZZOLA IN THE GUARDIAN**

The British newspaper The Guardian published an article "[English still rules the world, but that's not necessarily OK. Is it time to curb its power?](#)" by Michele Gazzola, where he talks about the role of English and other languages in today's world. He mainly focuses on the injustice of the current world-language situation.

## IV PEOPLE

### 1 ERICH-DIETER KRAUSE (1935 – 2023)

We have received sad news that the well-known German lexicographer Professor Erich-Dieter Krause passed away on 18 October 2023. As a specialist on the Indonesian language (*Bahasa Indonesia*) he worked until the year 2000 at the Oriental Institute at the Universität Leipzig, Germany. He received his doctorate in 1974 with a thesis “Foreign influences on the lexicon of the Indonesian language with particular attention to Anglo-American influences”, and received his habilitation in 1992. Krause published textbooks and dictionaries on the Indonesian language.

However he was more well known, especially in the German-speaking world, as an Esperanto lexicographer. His first Esperanto-German dictionary was released in 1967 (with 190 pages), and in 1972, he released his pocket German-Esperanto dictionary, with 279 pages. From that time he continued to spread his lexicographical collections in order to publish larger bilingual Esperanto dictionaries by four publishing houses in total. Mondial in New York published his two volume *Vollständiges Wörterbuch Esperanto-Deutsch* (Unabridged Esperanto-German Dictionary), totaling 1,512 pages, in 2018 and in that year, only months before his death, his three-volume *Vollständiges Wörterbuch Deutsch-Esperanto* (Unabridged German-Esperanto Dictionary) with a monumental 2,511 pages.

Erich-Dieter Krause was a longtime member of the *Akademio de Esperanto*, the Esperanto-language academy, and on the Editorial Board of the academic journal *Esperantologio/Esperanto Studies*. He was active in the German *Gesellschaft für Interlinguistik*, the Society for Interlinguistics, lecturing and publishing on lexicographical topics. His life and especially his publications are covered in greater detail in an article celebrating his 80th birthday in *Informilo por Interlingvistikoj* (2015: 1-2).

The Esperanto community owes a debt of gratitude to Erich-Dieter Krause. There is certainly no German-speaking Esperantist, who has never consulted his dictionaries. They are and will be valuable for practical use in the community and furthermore, their size and high quality helps improve the reputation of Esperanto to the rest of the world

*Sabine Fiedler*

### 2 LISA MCENTEE-ATALIANIS RECEIVES TENURE

Lisa McEntee-Atalianis, reviewer-editor of LPLP and close collaborator with Humphrey Tonkin with the New York-based study group, Language and the UN, recently received tenure at Birbeck, University of London.

## V BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTES

### 1 THESES, DISSERTATIONS, AND DIPLOMA WORK

### 2 JOURNAL ARTICLES

DZIENIS, Paweł (2022). “Esperanto jako język czynności prawnych”, Polish. In: *Kwartalnik Prawa Międzynarodowego* 2022 1: 77–105. ISSN: 2720-5460. An English version, *Esperanto as a language of legal acts*, is available [here](#).

“Aliĝilo” and “kotizo”, two Esperanto words commonly used when concluding contracts for the organization of Esperanto events, are referred to in this article as the symbols for analysing the use of Esperanto in civil law. Considerations around the concept of the linguistic form of a legal act are conducted on two levels. The first plane addresses legal transactions between Esperantists in the Esperanto movement in terms of their admissibility and legal weight. The second plane applies to common civil-law transactions, with a special emphasis on international trade, through the prism of the admissibility, weight, and areas of use of Esperanto.

The author analyses the so-far merely signalling statements in the Polish civil-law doctrine concerning the legal meaning of the use of Esperanto and deepens research in this area. In this respect, the author analyses legal acts in general, limitations resulting from the application of the Polish Language Act and those legal acts that require a special form, such as last wills and testaments and bills of exchange, in terms of admissibility of expressing a statement of will in Esperanto. An important role is also played by the placement of the subject in the context of the following principles: freedom of contract and freedom of form of legal actions as well as equality of parties to legal relationships of the civil-law type. The procedural consequences of the use of Esperanto in the sphere of substantive law are also shown. In addition to evaluating numerous examples, the case of the practical application of Esperanto in law is discussed. The summary outlines advantages and risks as well as offers legislative proposals.

### 3 BOOKS

FIEDLER, Sabine and Cyril Robert BROSCHE (2022). *Esperanto – Lingua franca and language community*, Studies in world language problems 10. Amsterdam: John Benjamins. ISBN: 9789027211477. DOI: [doi.org/10.1075/wlp.10](https://doi.org/10.1075/wlp.10).

This book addresses a fascinating topic – a constructed language that has turned from a project into a fully-fledged language used by some of its speakers on a daily basis. Based on extensive fieldwork, this book provides rare and profound insights into the use of Esperanto in a large number of communicative areas. It studies the speakers’ use of code-switching, phraseology and metaphors, techniques they employ to enhance understanding, such as meta-

communication and repair strategies, as well as their predilection for humour. The study also contributes to a comparison between the communication in Esperanto and in the language that is now predominantly used as a lingua franca – English – and allows conclusions to be drawn on the question of what a lingua franca is all about.

## 4 BOOK CHAPTERS

ARAY, Başak (2024). “Metaphysics, tolerance, and language planning: Carnap on international auxiliary languages”, in: *Interpreting Carnap: Critical essays*. Edited by Alan RICHARDSON and Adam Tamas TUBOLY. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Chapter 11: 214–233. ISBN: 978-1-009-09820-5. DOI: [doi.org/10.1017/9781009099080](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009099080).

## 5 JOURNAL ISSUES

### 5.1 *Jahrbuch der Gesellschaft für Interlinguistik*

*Jahrbuch der Gesellschaft für Interlinguistik*, 2023. ISBN: 978-3-96023-577-4.

#### 5.1.1 Contents

- Cyril Robert Brosch & Sabine Fiedler: Einführung (Introduction)
- Věra Barandovská-Frank: Mögliche Szenarien for the future of Interlinguistics (Possible scenarios for the future of Interlinguistics)

Interlinguistics was originally understood as the science of creating international auxiliary languages. Since the concept was introduced by Jules Meysmans in 1911, it has been increasingly broadened to include everything related to language, e.g. language policy, language comparison, language planning and standardisation, multilingualism, pidgins and creoles, all means of international communication/interlanguages, language creation “just for fun”, etc. In the age of globalisation, we could also explore the role of World Englishes. In this article, I reflect on four of many possible trends:

1. English only: Merging Interlinguistics and English Studies
  2. Interlinguistics as Palaeolinguistics: The study of ancient planned languages for historical reasons
  3. Hollywood Interlinguistics: The study of conlangs for fictional worlds etc. (“Gobbo trend”)
  4. Interlinguistics recycled: The use of old planned languages for artistic purposes
- Pierre Dieumegard & Chloé Izquierdo: Zur Bekanntheit konstruierter Sprachen in Frankreich – Ergebnisse einer Umfrage im Jahr 2022 (Awareness of constructed languages in France – Results of a 2022 survey)

This article presents the results of a survey conducted in the spring of 2022 on the awareness of consciously created languages (number of participants: 600). It shows that among the languages created for international communication, Esperanto is the best known, much better than Volapük. Among the languages created for literary purposes and for films and series, Tolkien's Elvish is the best known. It is followed by Klingon and Na'vi. The article analyses the results in terms of the age, gender, and level of education of the participants as well as their responses to the questions of whether they would learn a constructed language and whether they would want their children to do so. The data on the background of languages is less precise for languages created for international communication, such as Esperanto and Volapük, than for languages created for artistic purposes.

- Sabine Fiedler: Interlinguistik for future? – Einige Überlegungen zu Zielen und zur Zukunft der Interlinguistik (Interlinguistics for future? – Some reflections on the aims and the future of Interlinguistics)

The theme chosen for the 2022 GIL conference provides a special incentive to take a closer look at the present and the future of interlinguistics. This seems particularly appropriate because in recent years there has been a shift of interest in interlinguistic research towards language designs that are created for fictional worlds (such as Klingon, Dothraki, etc.). Recent publications have tended to treat these artistic languages and planned languages such as Esperanto in a rather undifferentiated way. Will Interlinguistics in the future mean, then, dealing primarily with these kinds of consciously created languages, as one occasionally reads? Has the study of planned languages become superfluous? This article argues that, despite existing points of contact, Interlinguistics must clarify the differences between these two types of invented languages, especially with regard to their function. Interlinguistics and Esperanto Studies need to be taken as serious subjects and to be more involved in other areas of research.

- Cornelia Mannewitz: Ortsnamen in der Ukraine (Place names in Ukraine)

This article provides an insight into the regional and linguistic diversity of Ukrainian place names. Since the Russian forms of some of these names have long been better known internationally than their Ukrainian counterparts, the differences between these forms are also discussed. They also reflect differences between the two languages. Finally, political reasons for certain place names and their changes over time are discussed.

- Klaus Schubert: Interlinguistik im 19. Jahrhundert – Die Société internationale de Linguistique und die Universalsprachen (Interlinguistics in the 19th century – The Société internationale de Linguistique and the universal languages)

In the mid-19th century the Société internationale de Linguistique in Paris studied and assessed universal languages. Early on in its work, the Society ruled out ancient and contemporary ethnic languages, including simplified forms, and somewhat later even a posteriori planned languages. The Society thus favoured a priori planned languages only. The highest praise was awarded to the universal languages of Letellier and Sotos Ochando. The Society pronounced Sotos Ochando's language the best universal language proposed to date, but also suggested a series of improvements. At the same time the philosopher

Renouvier investigated the same topic and forwarded a theory in favour of a system with a borrowed lexicon and a schematically created grammar, thereby outlining the a posteriori principle without calling it such. The Society was aware of his theory, but ignored it. The article both showcases the Society's work and analyses it in order to pinpoint those effects of this early endeavour that are still palpable today. The most obvious effect is the introduction and spreading of the classification of planned languages with the a priori–a posteriori dichotomy. The Society's proceedings further show the close link between all kinds of deliberate and conscious influence on language, thus between the construction of planned languages and spelling reform, the international phonetic alphabet, shorthand, cryptography and the simple and easy-to-read languages devised for hearing impaired or visually handicapped persons today.

This article also exists in an Esperanto version – Schubert, Klaus (2023): *Interlingvistiko en la 19-a jarcento. La Internacia Lingvistika Societo kaj la universalaj lingvoj*

- Christian Siefkes: *Lugamun – eine mit algorithmischer Unterstützung erstellte »Worldlang«* (Lugamun – a “worldlang” created with algorithmic support)

A comparatively new and small category of international auxiliary languages are the so-called “worldlangs”, whose vocabulary and grammar are based not only on the Indo-European languages but also on languages from other language families. But the more diverse the source languages are, the more difficult it is to justify the decisions on the use of certain words, grammatical structures, etc. Why use one particular variant, when another might have been as good or better? *Lugamun* is a new worldlang that uses an algorithm to ease this problem, based on free online sources such as Wiktionary, the multilingual dictionary. For each term to be added to its dictionary, the words used in the various source languages are automatically converted to fit *Lugamun*'s spelling and phonology, and then automatically ranked according to several criteria, such as their similarity to the words used in other languages. By default, the best-ranked candidate is then added to *Lugamun*'s vocabulary; another candidate can be chosen if preferred, but such choices must always be justified. In this way it is possible to understand the reasoning behind the choice of each word. A similarly systematic process is also used to select of grammatical structures.

- Sabine Fiedler: *Buchvorstellung – Erich-Dieter Krause: Vollständiges Wörterbuch Deutsch-Esperanto* (in drei Bänden (Book review – Erich-Dieter Krause: *Complete German-Esperanto dictionary* (in three volumes))

This article deals with the three-volume German-Esperanto dictionary by E.-D. Krause, which was published this year. With more than 250,000 word entries, it is the most comprehensive bilingual Esperanto dictionary ever published. The article attempts to present and evaluate this work according to a number of criteria proposed in the specialist literature.

- Goro Christoph Kimura: *Buchvorstellung – Ermunterung zum sparsameren Gebrauch des Englischen* (Book presentation – *Encouraging a more sparing use of English*)

This article presents a book by the author which advocates a reduction in the use of English as an international language. The book argues that emancipation from dependence on

English is the key to being properly equipped for internationalisation and globalisation. Concrete alternatives are proposed.

## **5.2 *Language Problems and Language Planning***

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### **5.2.1 Contents**

- Taiwo Oloruntoba-Oju & Bert van Pinxteren: Issues in introducing indigenous languages in higher education in Africa: The example of Nigeria

As the most populous African nation, with one of the most diverse, and problematic, ethnolinguistic profiles in the world, Nigeria provides a case study for the potential introduction of indigenous languages in (higher) education delivery in once colonised territories. We argue that increased enrolment in higher education will become necessary for Nigeria to attain its developmental goals. We then discuss the limits to what the Nigerian educational system can be expected to achieve using English as the medium of instruction. Once these limits are surpassed, the gradual addition of a limited number of Nigerian languages will become inevitable. We propose to make use of a distinction between languages as designed (or intellectualized) and languages as discerned, inspired by the terminology of “Ausbau” and “Abstand” languages as used by Kloss. The article briefly reviews the complex linguistic makeup of Nigeria and outlines a number of principles that could guide rational language choices in this area, such as ease of acquisition and inclusivity. It ends with suggesting a number of concrete steps that should be taken over the coming years in order to make the introduction of indigenous languages into higher education in Nigeria a practical possibility.

- Robert Neal Baxter : Interpreting as a part of language planning: A promising opportunity for Breton

The paper opens with a brief overview of the reasons behind the decline of the Breton language in the mid-19th to early 20th Centuries in order to contextualise on-going revitalisation efforts that began in earnest in the 1980s. The discussion then turns to a theoretical review of the literature concerning the key role that translation has been shown to play within the framework of language planning for minority languages within the complementary fields of Polysystems Theory and the Sociology of Translation, arguing that the related yet considerably under-researched field of interpreting can also make a significant contribution to language planning and revitalisation by heightening visibility and symbolic prestige. Finally, the paper presents the results of a limited yet revelatory survey of the main interpreters active in the field in order to shed light on key aspects of the current state of the emerging phenomenon of Breton language interpreting (including interpreter profiles, training, directionality, modalities, voluntary vs. paid work, the clientele, etc.) and their implications with a view to gauging its potential impact for language planning and possible directions for the future.



- Rama Manor & Adi Binhas: Teaching Hebrew as second language in Arab schools in Israel: Policy and identity politics

Students belonging to the substantial Palestinian-Arab minority in Israel – about one-fifth of the population – are required to study Hebrew as a second language (SL). This study analyzes the policy of teaching Hebrew as SL through content analysis of policy papers, questionnaires and interviews with teachers. It aims to elicit the meaning of studying the majority language by the minority in practical and ethnonational identity terms. The findings indicate that the current policy aims at promoting the acquisition of spoken Hebrew for the purpose of integration in higher education and the labor market, and that international contents are more prominent as part of the growing openness in Palestinian society in Israel. In terms of identity, the importance of Hebrew in that society has grown, but also posed challenges in terms of the minority's sense of belonging to Israel and identification with the values attendant on acquiring the language. Overall, we identified interfaces between three identity spheres: the Palestinian ethnonational identity, the Jewish-Israeli identity as encountered through Hebrew language studies, and the global identity as represented by educational and employment opportunities and values.

- Kadija Bouyzourn, Rachel Macreadie, Shuxia Zhou, Reine Meylaerts & Anthony Pym: Translation policies in times of a pandemic: An intercity comparison

In 2020–22, multilingual vaccination communication became an urgent priority around the world, requiring trusted communication in non-official languages. In Brussels, Melbourne and Shanghai, quite different legal frameworks and language policies were challenged by the need for behavior-change communication in a wide range of culturally and linguistically diverse communities. In all three cases, practices were developed that showed the limitations of existing translation policies. Here we use policy analysis to explore the nature of those challenges, to compare the different solutions found in the three cities, and to propose how policies might be developed and adjusted to enhance time-pressured trust-building communication.

- Klaus Schubert: Review of “Věra Barandovská-Frank. 2020. *Interlingvistiko. Enkonduko en la sciencon pri planlingvoj*”
- Nasim Omidian Sijani: Review of “Thomas Ricento (Eds). 2021. *Refugees in Canada: On the loss of social and cultural capital*”
- Mariam Aboelezz: Review of “Chaoqun Lian. 2020. *Language, Ideology and Sociopolitical Change in the Arabic-speaking World: A study of the discourse of Arabic language academies*”

### 5.3 *Beletra Almanako*

*Beletra Almanako*, 47, June 2023. ISBN: 9781595694560. ISSN: 1937-3325.

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## 6 NEWSLETTERS

### 6.1 *Global coalition for language rights (GCLR)*

Oktobro 2023

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**To receive information on upcoming issues, or to send material for future issues, send an email to [ipi@esperantic.org](mailto:ipi@esperantic.org). Deadlines for each issue for the following month are: 28 February, 31 May, 30 August, and 30 November. Contributions from around the world are welcome. We accept material in Esperanto or another language.**

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