

I<sup>p</sup>I

# Informilo *por* Interlingvistoj

(Information *for* Interlinguists)

Volume 33 (fourth series), Number 4 (129), 2024  
ISSN 1385-2191

*Published by*

Centre for Research and Documentation on World Language Problems  
(CED)

[interlingvistiko.net](http://interlingvistiko.net) ♦ [@CED\\_interling](https://twitter.com/CED_interling)

*Edited by*

Başak ARAY  ♦ KIMURA Gorō Christoph (木村 護郎クリストフ)   
Jorge Antonio LEONI DE LEÓN  ♦ Bengt-Arne WICKSTRÖM 

*English translations and language-editing by*

Jonathan THOMAS

To contact the editors: [IpI@interlingvistiko.net](mailto:IpI@interlingvistiko.net)

# CONTENTS

<b>I</b>	<b>Events</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>The 21st International Congress of Linguists (ICL), Interlinguistics Workshop , 2024-09-8/14</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Organizers . . . . .	3
1.2	Venue . . . . .	3
1.3	Program . . . . .	3
1.4	Report . . . . .	4
<b>2</b>	<b>46th Esperanto-studies conference during the 109th World Esperanto Congress in Arusha, 2024-08-08</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>The 2nd International conference on constructed languages, 2024-07-04/05</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Conference: Esperanto in Asia, 2024-08-30/31</b>	<b>8</b>
4.1	Venue . . . . .	8
4.2	Program . . . . .	8
<b>II</b>	<b>Academic and research activity</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>The Interlinguistics Studies at AMU end their program with their last exams</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>III</b>	<b>Culture</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Center of Documentation on Esperanto in Subirats, Catalonia</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Esperanto in newspaper excerpts</b>	<b>11</b>
2.1	Introduction . . . . .	11
2.2	The Hachette collection . . . . .	12
2.3	Research questions . . . . .	12
2.4	Overview of the pipeline . . . . .	12
2.5	Results: ONB catalog entries, full-text search and IIF dataset . . . . .	13
2.6	Links, funding information and community . . . . .	14
<b>IV</b>	<b>People</b>	<b>15</b>

<b>V</b>	<b>Bibliographic notes</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Dissertations, diploma theses</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Journal articles</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Books</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Book chapters</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Journal issues</b>	<b>16</b>
5.1	Jahrbuch der Gesellschaft für Interlinguistik . . . . .	16
5.1.1	Jahrbuch der Gesellschaft für Interlinguistik, 2024. ISBN: 978-3-96023-577-4. . . . .	16
5.1.1.1	Contents . . . . .	16
5.2	Language Problems and Language Planning . . . . .	18
5.2.1	Language Problems and Language Planning, <b>48:1</b> , 2024. ISSN: 0272-2690. E-ISSN: 1569-9889. . . . .	18
5.2.1.1	Contents . . . . .	18
5.3	Beletra Almanako . . . . .	19
5.4	Esperantologio / Esperanto Studies . . . . .	19
5.5	Investigationes Linguisticae . . . . .	19
<b>6</b>	<b>Newsletters</b>	<b>19</b>

# **I EVENTS**

## **1 THE 21ST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF LINGUISTS (ICL), INTERLINGUISTICS WORKSHOP , 2024-09-8/14**

### **1.1 *Organizers***

Ilona Koutny and Nicolau Dols Salas

### **1.2 *Venue***

Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu, Poznań

### **1.3 *Program***

- Věra Barandovská-Frank: Importance of Latin and Romance languages for the production of planned languages and their communities
- Sabine Fiedler: Esperanto linguistics – some reflections on 35 years of research
- Jorge Antonio Leoni de León: Generation of constructed languages with artificial intelligence-based methods: Theoretical, methodological and ethical aspects
- Natalia Dankova: Use of the article in spoken Esperanto
- Ilona Koutny: The role of István Szerdahelyi in interlinguistics
- Christopher Gledhill: Innovation and intervention in the terminology of Esperanto: The case of paronymic neology
- Philippe Planchon: The predicative markers “iĝ” and “ig” in the verbal valency system of Esperanto
- Nicolau Dols: Converging and diverging trends in Esperanto
- Fabio Fortes: Language democracy, language rights, language equity and the use of languages for intercultural communication: A survey among students of languages and humanities in Brazil
- Marc van Oostendorp: Invisible regularization in a constructed language. The pronunciation of acronyms in Esperanto
- Başak Aray: Logical empiricism and language planning
- François Lo Jacomo: Is Esperanto enriched in the same way as a natural language?



FIGURE 1.1 Speakers of the Interlinguistics Workshop

## 1.4 Report

The International Conference of Linguists is the largest and most prestigious event of linguists which takes place every 5th year in various countries. The 21st (2024-09-08/14) took place at Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu in Poznań, Poland, with more than 500 participants. [Here](#) is a presentation of the congress (near the end, you can see Sean O’Riain).

Many Sections, Focus streams, Special panels and Workshops were held during ICL21. The Interlinguistics Workshop with 12 lectures (from 11 countries) was led by Iлона Koutny, Director of Interlinguistic Studies (UAM) and Nicolau Dols (University of the Balearic Islands, ES) on Thursday afternoon and all day Friday. During the opening, Duncan Charters, President of UEA and François Lo Jacomo, Secretary of the Academy of Esperanto greeted participants and then Iлона Koutny outlined the terrain of interlinguistics and Esperantology and finally Nicolau Dols

presented the topics and lecturers of the section.

Interlinguistics has historical roots in the ICL. Indeed, during the 2nd congress in 1931 in Geneva, the well-known Danish linguist Otto Jespersen (supporter of Esperanto, later of Ido and creator of Novial) initiated a discussion on the problem of an international language in which well-known linguists participated (including Edward Sapir). He introduced interlinguistics as a branch of linguistics in “A New Science Interlinguistics”, *Psyche* 11 (1930-31), 57-67. It was reprinted as “Interlinguistics” in the book *International Communication: A symposium on the language problem*, edited by Herbert N. Shenton, Edward Sapir, and Otto Jespersen (London: Trubner & Company Limited, 1931, 95-120).

A wide range of diverse topics were presented:

Sabine Fiedler (DE) dealt with the topic of Esperanto specialist literature during recent decades. Nicolau Dols (ES) analyzed convergent and divergent trends in Esperanto based on the corpus *tekstaro.com*. Christopher Gledhill (GB/FR) presented problems of paronyms in the case of Esperanto terminology. Philippe Planchon (FR) discussed the uses of the Esperanto suffixes *-ig* (transitive, causative) and *-iĝ* (intransitive, mediopassive) in connection with verbal valency. Marc van Ostendorp (NL) via video connection presented his research on the pronunciation of Esperanto acronyms and compared it to other approaches. Natalja Dankova (CA) analyzed the use of articles in spontaneous, spoken texts by speakers of Romance (Italian, Spanish) and Slavic (Polish, Russian) languages. François Lo Jacomo (FR) addressed the way in which Esperanto is enriched by new words. Ilona Koutny (HU/PL) spoke of the legacy of István Szerdahelyi (interlinguist, innovative Esperantologist and founder of the Esperanto specialty of Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest) on the centennial of his birth. Fabio Fortes (BR) investigated to what extent the basic values of Esperantists such as linguistic democracy, linguistic rights, and a common language in intercultural communication are accepted among non-Esperantist students in Brazil. Başak Aray (TR) spoke about logical empiricism and language planning in the case of Rudolf Carnap. Verã Barandovská-Frank (CZ/DE) highlighted the special role of Latin and the Romance languages in language planning. Jorge Antonio Leoni de León (CR) chose a current topic, namely the use of AI (artificial intelligence) for the construction of languages in its theoretical, methodological and ethical aspects.

More than 30 congress members participated, including students of the post-graduate program in interlinguistics at AMU, who had taken their final exams on Monday through Wednesday. There were also some non-Esperanto speakers. The lectures were held in English, but there were also Esperanto-language questions afterwards, such as those by Alicja Sakaguchi (a well-known interlinguist who represents a narrow approach to the field). There are plans to publish a book from the proceedings. Thanks are owed to the Esperanto Studies Foundation for the support.

In addition to the interlinguistics section, there were lectures by other Esperantists at the ICL. Bengt-Arne Wickström, Ida Stria and Sean O’Riain in the Section on Language Policy, Rafał Darasz in the Focus stream on Sign Language and Ana Alebić-Juretić in the Section devoted to historical linguistics (the last two have just finished the interlinguistic studies at AMU).

That weekend, during the final edition of the Polish Esperanto cultural event Arkones, a number of speakers contributed to the program: Nicolau Dols (on the Centenary of the Catalan Anthology and recited a poem in Catalan and Esperanto versions), Antonio Leoni de León (Central American Conservatory of Cultural Property), Philippe Planchon (Family names and stories), François Lo Jacomo (A new UNESCO resolution on Esperanto?) and Ilona Koutny



(Multilingual thematic dictionaries on paper and online – with interlinguistic student collaborators; A Report on the ICL and a Presentation on Szerdahelyi). Duncan Charters and several other professors and students of the Interlinguistic Studies contributed to the variety of the program.

The photo shows the speakers in the Section Interlinguistics of ICL.

*Ilona Koutny*

## **2 46TH ESPERANTO-STUDIES CONFERENCE DURING THE 109TH WORLD ESPERANTO CONGRESS IN ARUSHA, 2024- 08-08**

During the Universala Kongreso (World Esperanto Congress) in Arusha, Tanzania, the traditional Esperanto-studies conference organized by CED (the Centre for the Research and Documentation of World Language Problems) took place, this year organized by Mark Fettes and Bengt-Arne Wickström (see IPI 128). After opening remarks by World Esperanto Association President Duncan Charters, B.-A. Wickström welcomed the participants and briefly introduced the CED and its publications *Informilo por interlingvistikoj / Information for interlinguists*, *Esperantologio / Esperanto studies*, and *LPLP – Language problems and language planning*. The program of the *Esperantologia konferenco* (EK) consisted of three parts: language and language usage in Africa, culture and linguistics of Esperanto, and a discussion on the future of Esperanto in Africa.

In the morning sessions, which had around 40 participants, H. Goes dealt with the history of Esperanto in Africa and M. Grosjean the language situation on the continent. After a coffee break, R. Corsetti, with the new Hausa-Esperanto dictionary as a starting point, compared Swahili with Hausa, D. Maxwell Swahili with Esperanto, and É. Byelongo Isheloke discussed how Swahili and Esperanto can bring about peace in Africa.

In the afternoon, around 30 participants listened to lectures about I. Szerdahelyi (I. Koutny) and Cicio Mar (A. Madella). Ph. Planchon followed with a discussion on the self-standing nature of Esperanto affixes. The second part was closed by K. Tytgat with a lecture on the use of Esperanto by the International Police Association.

The discussion of the future use of Esperanto in Africa was introduced by A. Adjé kaj A. Omba. A lively discussion followed. The discussion brought up the need for more important events like the World Esperanto Congress in the whole of Africa to promote the usage of Esperanto.

The EK took place in a somewhat separate part of the congress site. That, along with the offering of coffee and tea during the breaks, helped create a true symposium atmosphere with lively discussions between sessions. The majority of people remained for the whole conference, as expected.

*Bengt-Arne Wickström*

### 3 THE 2ND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CONSTRUCTED LANGUAGES, 2024-07-04/05

In early July, the 2nd *Colloque international sur les langues construites (International conference on constructed languages)*, organized by the *Laboratoire Ligérien de Linguistique (LLL, UMR 7270, Université de Orléans, Université de Tours, BnF, CNRS)*.

The conference lasted two days (July 4 and 5) and it made possible the meeting of people interested on the topic. The conference was opened to the general public and it was very successful. In total, 40-50 people were present. The conference developed across diverse sessions, among others about auxiliary languages (such as Esperanto), fictional languages, experimental languages, sociolinguistic topics, and on informational resources.

The introductory lecture of the conference was made by Federico Gobbo (Universiteit van Amsterdam) on diverse aspects of the conference theme and emphasized the value for researchers of becoming familiar with the interlinguistics tradition, even if only about the construction of fictional languages. The title of his lecture was “On the art and craft of constructing languages: Lessons learned from classic interlinguistics”.

During the session on fictional languages (also called “Hollywood languages”), lectures on Klingon, Elvish, and other fictional lectures (for example ancient fictional languages) were presented. To these sessions were added three poster communications about newly created fictional languages. There was also multiple lectures on software used to construct languages and lectures which presented sociolinguistics research surveys on constructed languages, which regarding that, is worth mentioning the lecture of Pierre Dieumegard (Esperanto Développement 45), who did similar research in Orléans.

During the sessions which dealt specifically with Esperanto, there were lectures on the linguistics of the language, among others, on the table of correlatives of Esperanto from a typological perspective (Maximilien Guérin, Université de Lille), on Esperanto affixes (Philippe Planchon, Université de Tours), and the function of adverbs in Esperanto (David Guérin, Université de Tours). Historical aspects of Esperanto were dealt with, in a lecture on current research related to Esperanto history (Pascal Dubourg, EHESS, CNRS), and in a lecture on the use of the word “Esperanto” during the reform of Turkish (Başak Aray, Boğaziçi Üniversitesi).

The conference was also able to organize two expositions to inform the general public on constructed languages. The first was organized by Pascal Dubourg and related to Lucien Péraire : “À travers l’Eurasie par l’espéranto (1928-1932)”. The second exposition was organized by Edouard Kloczko on the Elvish languages by Tolkien. Those two sessions also included the presentation of ten or so posters presenting lesser-known constructed languages (Solresol, Blissymbolics, Anĝelika, Interlingua...) worked on by students at the Université d’Orléans during the academic year.

The program of the conference was certainly very rich, because in total there were 20 lectures and that enabled many exchanges and interesting discussions. The detailed program can still be viewed at the [website](#) of the conference. (See also Ipl 128). The organizing committee is now exploring diverse possibilities of publication of the Acts, with the aim of easy and free access online.

Finally, on the next conference (so in 2026), they have already discussed during the conference. Federico Gobbo proposed to organize the conference at his university, and that proposal received strong approval from the participants. So, hopefully the next time the conference will



take place in Amsterdam!

*Philippe Planchon*

## **4 CONFERENCE: ESPERANTO IN ASIA, 2024-08-30/31**

### **4.1 Venue**

香港大學 / The University of Hong Kong

### **4.2 Program**

- Joseph Essertier: Saitō Hidekatsu, Esperanto, and the Roman alphabet in Japan and China
- Kadoya Hidenori: Saitō Hidekatsu and the Esperanto movement in wartime Japan
- Kamimura Kazumi: Saitō Hidekatsu's view of the people and Esperanto
- Derek Kramer & Edwin Michielsen: Esperanto on the radio: Broadcasting infrastructure and politics of universal speech in the Japanese empire
- Usui Hiroyuki: Mao Zedong and Kita Ikki: Esperanto as a paradoxical tool to supersede the West
- Nishida Chizu: Transnational anti-war movement by Hasegawa Teru, a Japanese esperantist in WWII
- Jessica Morgan-Brown: The interplay of poeticism and social critique in Dan Tirinaro's *La Liberpoeto*
- Hagiwara Ken: Esperanto in Japanese theatre: A means of bringing "Peripheral Japan" into the Light
- Lorraine Wong: Chineseness in Mao Zifu's Esperanto poetry
- Yauheniya Hudziyeva: Ideals, strategies and survival of Japanese Esperantists in Manchuria, 1905-1945
- Dongyoun Hwang: "Worlding" Korean students: Esperanto in anarchist education in post-1945 South Korea
- Josh Fogel: Fyodor Postnikov and the introduction of Esperanto to Japan
- Nicholas Y. H. Wong: Esperanto in colonial Malaya and Singapore
- Connie Kwong: Exploring Esperanto resistance literature in Hong Kong through a trans-cultural lens (1938-39)
- Bipasha Bhattacharyya: Mapping Esperanto in India: Contact zones of a universal language

## **II ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH ACTIVITY**

### **1 THE INTERLINGUISTICS STUDIES AT AMU END THEIR PROGRAM WITH THEIR LAST EXAMS**

The Interlinguistics program at the Uniwersytet im. Adama Mickiewicza w Poznaniu (Poznań, Poland) was founded in 1997 by rectoral decree and the first group started in 1998. Now, 2024-09-09/11, after 26 years, the eighth group has passed its last exam with defending their capstone projects and theses. This group was the largest, starting in 2021 and also the last. 11 students presented their work (except 3 who will present soon) related to 3 specialities:

1. Translation (advisor of the first three projects: Chris GLEDHILL)

- GONG Xiaofeng (CN): Application of universal features of translation in translations of the classical Chinese novel “Dream of the Red Chamber” (reviewer: Nicolau DOLS)
- O Gisook (KR): Korean-Esperanto translation of modern Korean poetry (reviewer: Klaus SCHUBERT)
- Vitor Tagor de MAGALHAES MONTEIRO (BR): Automated translation tools (reviewer: Klaus SCHUBERT)
- YU Jianchao (CN): From Chinese to Esperanto: different expressions of reality, structures, and culture (in addition: glossary on learning, advisor: Ilona KOUTNY, reviewer: Alessandra MADELLA)

2. Interlinguistics (advisor: Vera BARANDOVSKÁ-FRANK)

- Ana ALEBIĆ-JURETIĆ (HR): The soure(s) of the Fiume dialect: was the Fiume dialect the first international language in Rijeka (former Fiume)? (reviewer: Ida STRIA)
- Renato sc Guedes Filho (BR): Iconicity for artificial languages (reviewer: Ida STRIA)

3. Esperanto movement (advisor: Mark FETTES)

- Fabio FORTES (BR): How much does language affect the world? The utopian and political program of Esperanto according to Brazilian Esperantists (reviewer: KIMURA Goro Christoph)
- Tim OWEN (GB): Esperanto in England: from the Unua Libro to its hosting of the Universala Kongreso in 1907 (review: Ziko van DIJK)

4. Methodology (advisor: Katalin KOVÁTS)

- Maurizio GIACOMETTO (IT/GB): Remote learning in Esperanto: the program Ekparolu! As a tool for effective second language acquisition (reviewer: Peter WEIDE)

- Rafał DARASZ (PL): Andrzej Pettyn – the pedagogical thought and approach to teaching reflected in his selected Esperanto textbooks (reviewer: Barbara PIETRZAK)
- Milan KOLKA (CN): Preparation of an electronic version of a multilingual lexicon (in addition: programming, advisor: Ilona Koutny, reviewer: Markos KRAMER)

Also 5 participants completed the one-year teacher training (advisor: Katalin KOVÁTS)

- Aranka LÁSZLÓ (CS): Online instruction of Esperanto in mixed groups of seeing and blind people
- Nedeljka LOZANIĆ (CS): Online instruction of Esperanto for the blind
- Yentl-Rose HEMELRIJK (NL): Pedagogic analysis of writing assignments
- Lidka KOMAR (PL): Halina Komar and her social action via Esperanto
- ZHANG Changsheng (CN): Cultural convergence, translation, and ideas for its instruction (+ glossary on work, advisor: Ilona KOUTNY)

They had a detailed exam on Esperanto language, culture, and movement besides student teaching. We had the good fortune to also host the president of UEA (Universala Esperanto-Asocio, the World Esperanto Association), Duncan Charters who participated in their evaluation.

After the exams, the Interlinguistics working group of the renowned International Congress of Linguists in Poznań with 12 English-language lectures and discussions which the students were able to participate in. The students and teachers of the Interlinguistics department of AMU celebrated together with the lecturers from the Congress with a nice banquet, thanks to the Esperantic Studies Foundation for its support of the students and the festivities.

The Arkones cultural festival (also the last) closed the week with a rich program. Multiple contributes from the final students and instructors added color to the program: Arko (Gong Xiaofeng) on translation; women's rights; Longarko on the Chinese Great Canal; Milan Kolka on the upcoming Universala Kongreso (World Esperanto Congress) in Brno, Czechia; contributes to the lexicon project; Hoan Thi Tran on Vietnamese dining customs. Vitor Monteiro played the guitar during the "miela vespero" or "honey evening", a traditional night of partying and music at Arkones, and Nicolau Dols recited Catalan poetry in both its original form and in Esperanto. Michael Farris presented on Creole languages; Katalin Kovacs drew in the audience on a taboo and intimate topic: in the shadow of cancer. She also ran a game of RISKO, a popular Esperanto trivia game with the participants. Duncan Charters lectured on literature and UEA; Ilona Koutny about the lexicon project and her colleagues (they presented two new lexicons with Chinese versions); a report on the Linguists Congress and memories about her teacher and predecessor István Szerdahelyi (founder of the Esperanto-language studies at Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem in Budapest, Hungary) on the occasion of his 100th birthday. She also presented the book which she compiled from his works.

*Ilona Koutny*

## **III CULTURE**

### **1 CENTER OF DOCUMENTATION ON ESPERANTO IN SUBIRATS, CATALONIA**

On Saturday, July 6 at 11:30. the Centro de Dokumentado pri Esperanto (Center for the Documentation of Esperanto) was inaugurated in Subirats, Catalonia, Spain, a museum exhibition which presents a selection of objects from the pharmacist Lluís Hernández Yzal, an outstanding Esperantist from Subirats, founder of the first museum in Spain dedicated to Esperanto, the Hispana Esperanto-Museo (Spanish Esperanto Museum) in 1968.

The Center for the Documentation of Esperanto was inaugurated as an exhibition space with various exhibits on the culture movement of Esperanto, its universal influence and specifically, its impact on Catalan society and locally within Subirats. The new cultural resource is being launched with a permanent exhibition of selections from the collection of Lluís Hernández Yzal, conserved in the archives of the Subirats local government. The inauguration ceremony took place on the Plaça de l'1 d'octubre in Sant Pau d'Ordal, in front of the city hall with official speeches from the family of Hernández Massana and the president of the Kataluna Esperanto-Asocio (Catalan Esperanto Association). Afterwards, "Akcepto" ("Acceptance"), the anthem for the 5th World Esperanto Congress in Barcelona in 1909 by Frederic Pujulà, was played. Afterwards, a tour of the center and finally a taste of sparkling wine with Ordal peaches. Besides the inauguration event, at 10:00 hours, it was possible to take a guided Esperanto tour of the most interesting places of Sant Pau d'Ordal. The event was organized by the Government of Subirats in co-operation with the Catalan Esperanto Association with support from the Barcelona Regional Government.

The Center will be open again on September 28, October 26, and November 23 from 11:00 to 13:00. The visit can be done with an Esperanto guide, which one can do freely with audio-descriptions of various points of Sant Pau d'Ordal. From January 2025, every 4th Saturday of the month will have a guided Esperanto tour with access to the Center to see the exposition. During the 3rd Naturamika Kultursemajno (Friends of Nature Cultural Week) in Tossa de Mar in October, the president of the Catalan Esperanto Association will present the whole project in Esperanto. Also there is a planned post-congress visit to the exhibition.

### **2 ESPERANTO IN NEWSPAPER EXCERPTS**

#### **2.1 Introduction**

The main goal of the CLARIAH-AT project *Esperanto Newspaper Excerpts* was to create complete texts for newspaper articles from the Hachette collection. This collection contains articles about Esperanto from the period 1898 until 1915, which are being held at the *Department of*

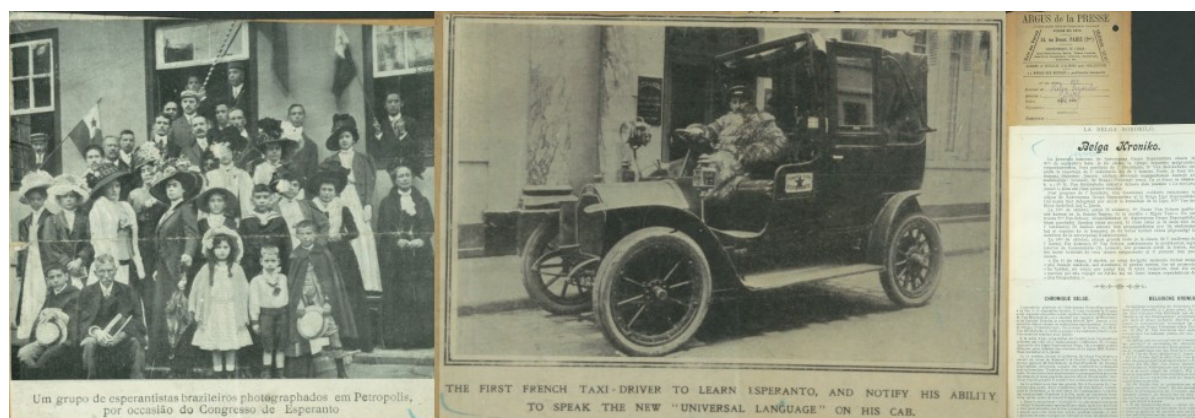


FIGURE 2.1 Examples from the collection

*Planned Languages* and *Esperanto Museum* of the Austrian National Library (ONB). In this article, we present the starting point, progress and results of the year-long research project.

## 2.2 *The Hachette collection*

The collection of newspaper cuttings processed in this project consists of around 17,000 articles taken from magazines published mainly in France, but also in many other European countries between 1898 and 1915. The articles themselves report on events and people related to Esperanto, e.g., reports from regional, national or world congresses, and therefore provide an excellent and unique opportunity to study the history of the Esperanto movement in Europe in the early 20th century.

## 2.3 *Research questions*

As a result of the project, this important collection of Esperanto articles became searchable. This enables further research as the text is now accessible for analysis using digital methods. Finally, we complemented the collection by moving from simple images to images with text files and metadata all in one place.

## 2.4 *Overview of the pipeline*

A pipeline was developed in the project with which full texts were extracted from the original images. This pipeline consists of four steps:

1. Segmentation of the images belonging to an article into individual text boxes
2. Rotating the boxes so that the text is horizontal
3. Applying Tesseract OCR to each box for text recognition
4. Creating a IIIF metadata manifest per article from the generated text files



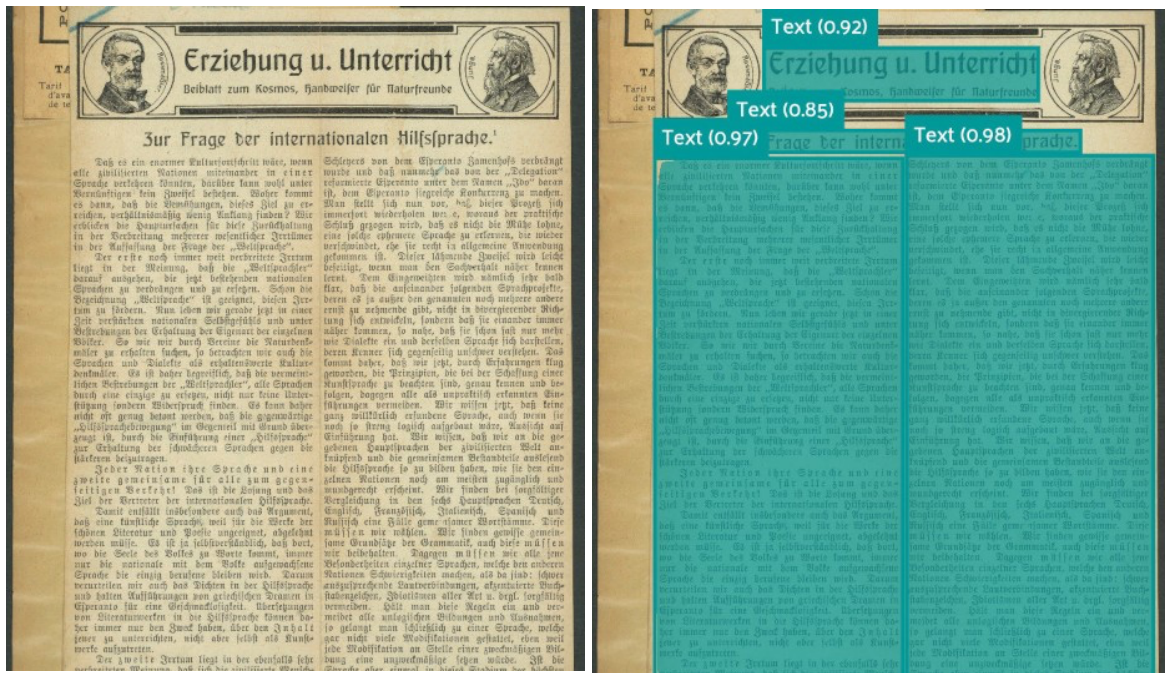


FIGURE 2.2 Applying the YOLOv8 network to a section of a two-column article in the data set. Left: original image, right: overlay of the original image and the generated text annotations

In the following, we go into more detail about the individual steps in the hope that it may serve as an inspiration for projects with similar historical material. For the layout analysis task, we use the **YOLOv8 model**, which is a powerful model for common tasks such as object recognition, image classification and segmentation. To improve the quality of layout recognition, fine-tuning was performed with manually annotated images. The model was then applied to all images in the data set and all areas annotated with “text” were passed on to the next stage. See figure 2.2 for a visual representation of the data generated in this step.

A typical problem with the newspaper clippings in this collection is that they are not glued parallel to the paper’s edges and the resulting quality of the full texts generated with typical OCR software decreases significantly if the input texts are not horizontal. Therefore, we have developed a Python script based on the open library **OpenCV**, which detects the direction of a text block and then rotates the image back by this angle. See Figure 2.3 for a demonstration of the script’s application to two sample images.

We used the open-source software **Tesseract OCR** for text recognition, as Esperanto and 21 other languages are directly supported. In the fourth and final step, the text files belonging to all text boxes on a page are combined into a single file, and this is converted into **IIF-compliant** annotations. A IIF metadata manifest is then created for each article with one or more images, each of which contains the text annotations in question.

## 2.5 Results: ONB catalog entries, full-text search and IIF dataset

The metadata mentioned above has been integrated into the ONB catalog system as part of the project and can be accessed using the term “**Sammlung Hachette**”. This allows searches to be done using the catalog’s usual filter methods and includes a reference to the corresponding dig-



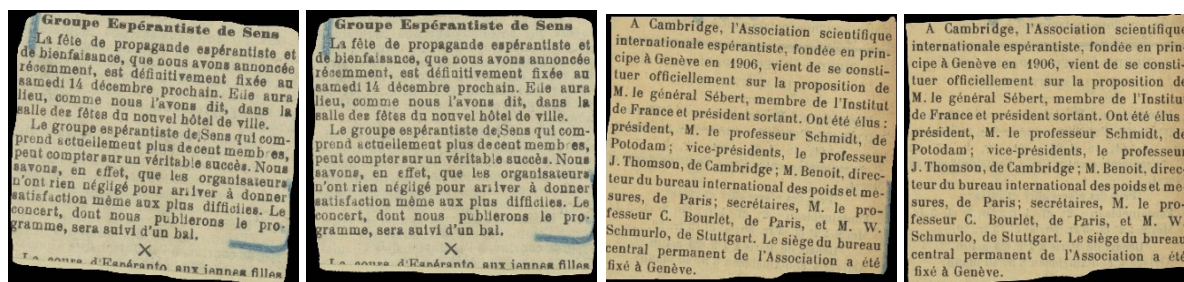


FIGURE 2.3 Application of the developed Python script to extracted text boxes. The result of the calculation is a counterclockwise rotation of  $3.36^\circ$  (for the first image from the left) and  $2.75^\circ$  (for the third image from the left)

ital copies. The main aim of the project was to make the full texts of the newspaper articles searchable. This has been done with the help of [Solr](#) and we offer a [full-text search](#) in the collection via the ONB Labs. In fact, the chosen implementation allows a combined search in all metadata (title, author, journal, date, place, language, keywords) as well as the full texts, including Solr's usual similarity search. We offer the data generated in the project as a bundled dataset [here](#). In addition to the project results as a download, further information on the scope and content of the dataset can be accessed there. There is also rights information, a citation suggestion and the possibility to browse the dataset. In the spirit of interoperability and reusability, which was desired in the call for proposals, we have created a IIIF collection that contains all IIIF manifests generated in the project and thus allows access to all images, metadata and full texts. This collection can be accessed [here](#).

## 2.6 Links, funding information and community

This project was supported by [CLARIAH-AT](#). The website of the project at the funding body can be found [here](#). A corresponding article for this project including more technical details appeared on the website of [ONB Labs](#). The source code, as well as the training dataset and the generated model for layout analysis can be found in the project's [Gitlab repository](#). We are happy to answer questions about the project and look forward to connecting with the Esperanto community. Send us an e-mail to [labs@onb.ac.at](mailto:labs@onb.ac.at).

*Simon Mayer*

## IV PEOPLE

## V BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTES

### 1 DISSERTATIONS, DIPLOMA THESES

### 2 JOURNAL ARTICLES

### 3 BOOKS

KOUTNY, Ilona, YU Jianchao [于建超], and ZHANG Changsheng [张常生] (2024). *English-Esperanto-Chinese mini-dictionary on Education & Work / Angla-esperanta-ĉina etvortaro pri lernado kaj laboro / 英语-世界语-汉语小词典学习与工作*, Poznań: Wydawnictwo Rys. ISBN: 978-83-68006-38-4.

SZERDAHELYI, István (2024). *Elektitaj artikoloj*, Esperanto. Edited by Ilona KOUTNY. *Interlingvistikaj studoj 4*. Poznań: Wydawnictwo Rys. ISBN: 978-83-68006-44-5. DOI: [doi.org/10.48226/978-83-68006-44-5](https://doi.org/10.48226/978-83-68006-44-5).

14 articles about Interlinguistics, Esperanto studies, and Pedagogics by the famous Hungarian Esperantist, who would have become 100 years old this year

### 4 BOOK CHAPTERS

LIBERT, Alan (2021). “The letter X in artificial auxiliary languages”, in: *EUROASIA: Congress on scientific research and recent trends – VIII*. Edited by Froilan D. MOBO and Merve KIDIRYUZ. Zambales: IKSAD Global Publications: 18–22. ISBN: 978-625-7464-03-1.

In English and some other languages, the letter x is relatively rare and might be seen as exotic. In fact, it does not occur at all, or only in foreign words in some languages, for example, Turkish. On the other hand, there are languages such as French and Somali in which x might be slightly more common, although still not one of the most frequent letters of the alphabet. One might also notice that x can stand for different sounds in different languages, or even in the same language; for example, in English it usually represents [ks], but it can also represent [z]. These are facts about natural languages; the present paper will look at such facts in artificial languages, i.e. languages which have been consciously created, and in particular, artificial languages which were designed to be used for international communication, artificial auxiliary languages. The best known such language is Esperanto.

The main questions will be whether x occurs in a language, and, if so, what sound(s) does it

represent? Also, although letter frequency statistics do not exist for most artificial auxiliary languages, one might be able to get some idea of the frequency of x by examining whether it occurs in common words and/or affixes. Some artificial auxiliary languages, for example Kah and Uropi, lack x. Other languages, for example Neo, have x in their alphabet and it stands for the sequence of sounds ks. In still other languages, such as Ardano and Atlas, x is pronounced like sh in English. In Latino Moderne x has the same two pronunciations as it does in English. We thus see diversity in the function of this letter in artificial languages, as well as in natural languages.

## 5 JOURNAL ISSUES

### 5.1 *Jahrbuch der Gesellschaft für Interlinguistik*

#### 5.1.1 *Jahrbuch der Gesellschaft für Interlinguistik, 2024. ISBN: 978-3-96023-577-4.*

##### 5.1.1.1 *Contents*

- Editors: Cyril Robert Brosch kaj Sabine Fiedler: Einführung: Plansprachen und Typologie (Introduction: Planned languages and typology)
- Věra Barandovská-Frank: Kann man Plansprachen typologisieren? (Is it possible to typologise planned languages?)

In my interlinguistics courses at the University of Poznań, my students worked intensively on the typology of planned languages, hoping that a complete or at least manageable categorisation would be possible. We, especially Szilva Szabolcz, whose thesis I used in the textbook *Interlingvistiko*, came to the conclusion that it was not possible. The terms “typology” and “classification” are often confused or used interchangeably. Classification is the highest level of typologisation, where the classes are strictly limited, exhaustive and mutually exclusive, i.e. they should be completely different. This is hardly possible with planned languages. In typology, on the other hand, the transition between types is rather continuous and some elements cannot be typologically recorded. This is the case with planned languages, the description of which is based on various criteria regarding construction, purpose, realisation, socialisation, etc. Here I will try to summarise the main trends in the typologisation of planned languages, without going into great detail.

- Cyril Robert Brosch: Warum sind internationale Plansprachen typologisch so, wie sie sind? (Why are international planned languages typologically the way they are?)

The paper explores how the five most important planned languages compare with the majority of the world’s languages in terms of forty-two selected typological features. It turns out that Esperanto, Ido, Interlingue, Interlingua (and to a lesser extent Volapük) are typologically largely similar to the majority. Common deviations from this picture can often be explained by the influence of European languages, partly also by the different communicative function of planned and ethnic languages. The paper argues that such deviations are not necessarily negative. However, further research is needed.

- Bernd Krause: Die Plansprache Ygyde – ein Portrait (A portrait of the planned language Ygyde)

Ygyde is an artificial language created in the early years of the 21st century. The purpose of this article is to give information about how Ygyde works and what is special about it. The language can be written in Latin letters as well as in its own script. It uses an alphabet with an unusual order of letters, with consonants arranged in pairs. Words are formed by combining two-letter syllables (consonant + vowel) after an initial letter that determines the word class. Some vocabulary is constructed using tables, such as colours, geographical terms or names, and numbers, which can be used in a decimal or octal system. The creators of Ygyde also provide a system of “mnemonic hints” to help learners memorise words. Ygyde has been heavily criticised for its ambiguities and some overly complicated constructions. Furthermore, as it can be spoken in at least two alternative ways, Ygyde has proven to be almost impracticable.

- Cornelia Mannewitz: Russisch und Ukrainisch im Sprachvergleich (Russian and Ukrainian compared)

Russian and Ukrainian are two languages that are often considered to be very similar. This article deals with particularly notable differences at different levels of their linguistic systems.

- Graciela Morgado Rodriguez: Das Amindaj-Projekt (The “Amindaj” project)

“Amindaj” is a Cuban music band that has been making traditional Cuban music in Esperanto for several years, with a varying line-up and number of musicians. Two albums have been released so far and “Amindaj” has performed at several international Esperanto congresses.

- Klaus Schubert: Interlinguistik und Esperantologie – eine neue Bestandsaufnahme (Interlinguistics and esperantology: A reassessment)

Diverging definitions have been proposed for interlinguistics and esperantology. There are also repeated proposals to include new topics in interlinguistics. In addition, different views have been put forward on what constitutes esperantology. Recently, it has even been suggested that esperantology should be decoupled from interlinguistics. This article therefore takes stock of some of the current views on the two disciplines. Esperantology should be defined as broadly as Tonkin suggests, i.e. as Esperanto-related linguistics, literary studies, cultural studies, sociology and political science. Interlinguistics should investigate all linguistic and non-linguistic phenomena that have to do both with the deliberate and conscious manipulation of language or communication and with international or interethnic communication.

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

### **5.2.1 *Language Problems and Language Planning*, 48:1, 2024. ISSN: 0272-2690. E-ISSN: 1569-9889.**

#### *5.2.1.1 Contents*

- Igor Ivašković: The role of identification criteria in language: The Croatia case

The article presents the criteria employed in distinguishing languages and, within the framework of structuralist and sociolinguistic perspectives, delves into the role of identification criteria in the context of the Croatian language. Through a critical analysis of the interpretation of various criteria in Croatian linguistics, the article uncovers the issue of arbitrariness in language differentiation. The author asserts that, as a product of society, language cannot exist without its specific cultural context and, therefore, concurs with the thesis that language is inevitably influenced by politics. Within the scope of the Croatian language, the article examines several differentiation criteria, including structural, genetic, standardization, mutual intelligibility, and, notably, the identification criterion. The latter appears to be the least ambiguous, aligning with the principle that a language belongs to the entire community of its speakers. However, practical application raises certain challenges.

- Cecilia Gialdini: Language-based capabilities to conceptualise linguistic justice

This article proposes an application of the capability approach (CA) within linguistic justice, adopting a capability-based approach. The aim is to break down the concept into language-based capabilities associated with public goods, which can be evaluated through qualitative or quantitative methods, aligning with policy cycle models. The objective is to deconstruct the abstract notion of linguistic justice into manageable components, namely language-based capabilities, making it amenable to scrutiny through policy analysis. Language-based capabilities are capabilities linked to public goods and services that inherently require a language for conversion into functioning. The state plays a crucial role as a conversion enabler through fair and effective language policies. This breakdown into language-based capabilities facilitates the identification of individual strategies, making the evaluation of language policies easier. Such an approach enables an examination of the policymaking process, including its efficacy, shortcomings, and opportunities for improvement. The ultimate goal is to translate a highly normative approach into an operational definition, further breaking it down into measurable indicators, thereby advancing the field.

- Andreea S. Calude, Eline Zenner, Laura Rosseel and Hēmi Whaanga: Māori loanwords in New Zealand English: What can a picture-naming task reveal for language planning?

The Indigenous language of ANZ, Māori is undergoing significant revitalisation, following severe loss of vitality caused by English colonialism. One dimension to this revitalisation is the normalising of borrowings from Māori into New Zealand English (NZE). However, there are currently no empirical studies of adults' naming patterns for concepts that can be lexicalised by Māori words in NZE. We report on a picture-naming experiment

in which 48 participants are asked to name a set of target and control pictures depicting everyday concepts from three semantic categories which involve Māori borrowings: flora/fauna, people/places, material culture. Following a background questionnaire, we group participants into three categories, depending on their orientation towards Māori language and culture. Results suggest a clear association between participant orientation and their use of Māori loanwords. Alternative interpretations are discussed, including questions for future research on the relationship between NZE lexical variation and language planning.

- Nicko Enrique L. Manalastas and Sean Virgil J. Auxtero: Legalities of language use in linguistic landscaping: Examining English linguistic imperialism in the Philippines

Linguistic landscapes, according to Backhaus (2009: 170), are “consciously shaped and controlled by official rules and regulations.” However, the current body of Philippine linguistic landscape research – under-studied as it already is – lacks a close examination of Philippine national laws governing the (re)production of public signage. This paper therefore investigates the linguistic and ideological underpinnings of select [...] national sign laws by situating these not only within the context of their legal precedents, mandates, and history but also through an examination of 600 public signs collected from six diverse region centers in the Philippines. It examines how national laws prefer English in public signs over local and Indigenous languages, thereby perpetuating what Phillipson (1992) calls “English linguistic imperialism” and exacerbating the unequal power dynamics between those who speak English and those who do not in the Philippines.

- Michael Hornsby: Review of MACLEOD & SMITH-CHRISTMAS (2018): “Gaelic in contemporary Scotland: the revitalisation of an endangered language”
- Alice Leal: Review of RINGE (2022): “The Language(s) of politics: Multilingual policy-making in the European Union”
- Robert Phillipson: Review of FIDAHIĆ (2021): “Linguistic justice at the international criminal tribunal for the former Yugoslavia”
- Jeffrey Gil: Review of LI (2019): “Language management and its impact: The policies and practices of Confucius Institutes”

### 5.3 *Beletra Almanako*

### 5.4 *Esperantologio / Esperanto Studies*

### 5.5 *Investigationes Linguisticae*

## 6 NEWSLETTERS



**Ifl is a publication of the Centre for Research and Documentation on World Language Problems (CED) of the Universal Esperanto Association (UEA) Nieuwe Binnenweg 176 NL-3015 BJ Rotterdam, Netherlands. ISSN 1385-2191..**

**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.**

*Board of CED*

**Mark FETTES (director) ♦ Guilherme FIANS ♦ Klaus SCHUBERT  
Humphrey TONKIN ♦ Michele GAZZOLA.**