

ELNA UPDATE

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NGO COALITION FOR IAL

The Coalition for an International Auxiliary Language (CIAL) is an informal network of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which support the adoption and use of an international auxiliary language. The coalition consists of the Baha'i International Community, the Temple of Understanding, the Transnational Radical Party, the Universal Esperanto Association, and the World Federalist Movement. So there are now several organizations working together and separately to convince the United Nations and other international organizations to seriously consider measures to support and utilize the international language Esperanto. Among their stated goals is to have Ecosoc establish, in collaboration with Unesco, a "Center for International Linguistic Communication and Language Rights" to collect and distribute information on linguistic discrimination, and to promote linguistic rights and fair linguistic communication worldwide. [from *CIAL newsletter* of March, 1998]

WHOLE WORLD FOR AMERICANS?

These days the whole world is the turf of young Americans. Nobody can profit more from globalism than the youth of America, the sons and daughters of the world's only superpower, which has the most widespread culture and the strongest economy. They grew up in a hightech free-enterprise lifestyle which large portions of the world suddenly want to follow. And they speak English, which has become much more of a universal language than was Latin during its heyday. English is the common tool of commerce, amusement and scholarship, and is the dominant language of the internet. British experts claim that by the year 2000, more than a billion persons will be speaking or studying English. And now many millions more are climbing on the linguistic bandwagon; so if American, British or British-empire children do not have any other way to earn money overseas, they can almost always support themselves by teaching other people to speak as they do. Few of these possibilities are found in Western Europe, for English is already widely taught there; unemployment is high; and jobs

are mostly reserved for EU citizens. The best advice for future English teachers is "Go East, young men and women- to Asia and East Europe". [*Newsweek* (European Edition), Oct 6, 1997]

The desire and energy for the spread of English radiating from the above lines must also awaken our youth. A strong desire and concentrated energy are needed in order to attain important results and successes in any field, and therefore also in the field of Esperanto. We cannot deploy a force of many million young men and women, but certainly to teach our language requires a fifth or a tenth of the effort, so that the spread of Esperanto could be more efficient than that of any national language. There are, however, necessary preconditions: 1) continual evolution of Esperanto in regards to practical and cultural needs; 2) high level study of Esperanto; 3) wise publicity campaigns; 4) high level instruction of Esperanto within widely diverse applications aimed at a broad range of students from absolute beginner to fluent Esperantist. Each of these listed tasks can be fulfilled either by individuals or by groups. We cannot wait for nor expect central organising; but certainly knowledge of others' experiences can help quite a bit. Young Americans spread their language both through official channels (e.g. the Peace Corps) and without any central organizational base. It is easy to transform the above-cited lines about American youth and the spread of English: "These days the whole world is the turf of young Esperantists... All of humanity can profit from the globalism of the young Esperantists, children of the unarmed and unprejudiced world community, collecting and teaching the entire range of human culture, spreading intercomprehension among all peoples." [Otto Haszpra in *Eventoj* 1/Apr, 1998]

CONGRESS OF EUROPE

More than 3500 people attended the gathering called "Congress of Europe" May 8-10, 1998 in the Hague, Netherlands. The main topic of the gathering was "Constructing Europe for the 21st Century: A place of Solidarity and Freedom". During a work group on "Democracy, Citizenship and Human Rights" one

participant raised the language issue. This is what he said: "I am Umberto Broccatelli, from the Italian Council of the European Esperanto Movement, in which I represent the Italian Esperanto Federation. I ask that you will please pardon my bad French, but I am required to use a language which is not mine, and so you will understand my embarrassment. You find and will always find many millions of European citizens in this same situation. In the European Union, they do not feel that they are complete citizens, because they are forced to express themselves in a language not theirs, and consequently in conditions of inferiority relative to their interlocutors. European citizens are theoretically equal, but some are "more equal than the others". Some professional commentators have remarked recently that the Monetary Union will not be solid nor longlasting if it is not followed soon by political union. But they also recognise that this kind of political union is not possible between citizens who cannot understand one another. For example, how can a Dutch politician make himself understood to his Italian or Finnish fellow-citizens? The European Union is not Switzerland, which has only three official languages. Already today the EU has eleven official languages, whose number will gradually increase as the anticipated expansion is realised. In three months, I will be in Montpellier, in the South of France, where there will be a worldscale congress in which three thousand people will meet using only one language, which is a second language for all of them, putting them all in a situation of perfect equality. This language is the international auxiliary language Esperanto, and the congress in question is the world congress of the Universal Esperanto Association. This kind of situation of equality would obviously not be possible if any ethnic language were raised to the role of international auxiliary language: in fact, this would have a destructive effect similar to that which Latin had on the Etruscan and Celtic languages. The example proposed by the Esperanto movement should be imitated or at least studied by the European Union to solve its language problem. It would be a good idea for EU institutions to send a few qualified observers to [the UK in] Montpellier." [reported by ret-info]

CROATIAN TV PROGRAM

On May 9, 1998 a forty-five minute television program about prejudices relative to Esperanto was broadcast on Croatian Television as part of the series called "Babilejo", which is aimed at a youth audience. Two teams of high-school students debated for and against the use of Esperanto in international con-

texts. The members of the Esperanto Club Bude Borjan convinced a majority of the judges with their learned and energetic defense of Esperanto. [Reported by Spomenka Štimec by way of ret-info]

...AND ANOTHER ON CNN

On December 15, 1997, CNN Headline News dealt with the language problem in Europe. CNN reported that "overcoming language barriers has become a stumbling block for the European Union, and that's why a language movement that began over a hundred years ago is getting another look... Europe is a tangle of tongues. The fifteen-nation European Union has eleven official languages, and each utterance in one has to be made intelligible in the other ten... Interpreting, translating, checking, printing and reprinting, the European Commission alone turns out eight hundred million pages a year. Wanted: One Language for Europe! Well, the Esperanto movement solved that one 110 years ago!" During a short interview segment, Dr. John Wells, a professor at the University of London, said: "I think [Esperanto] is an excellent candidate for solving the European language problem, because it's an easy language that can be quickly learned; and if we really took it seriously, it would be a radical change in the linguistic setup in Europe." The program lasted two minutes and fifteen seconds.

ESPERANTO RADIO ON INTERNET

Two different news services have now made their Esperanto news broadcasts available on the internet, using a program called Real Audio. This is an excellent tool for keeping your listening skills well-honed while following the news of East Europe. And for those who have never heard Esperanto spoken, this is just the ticket! Radio Estonia has fifteen-minute shows which they change weekly; Radio Poland has four-minute programs which are fresh daily. Tune in at www.er.ee/tallinn and at www.wrn.org/stations/poland.html.

LOLOZAM GIVES ADVICE

A very amusing advice service called "LoLoZam Pensas" has appeared on the internet. It is conducted entirely in Esperanto, of course. Writers send in questions about their personal life, cosmic philosophy, linguistic issues, etc. and the pseudonymous LoLoZam replies with wit and genuine insight. Find him at www.geocities.com/Athens/5685/index.html.

NEW FROM THE BOOK SERVICE

ABISMOJ, *Jean FORGE*. The theme of this novel is the daily repetition of history, but the author, by means of his well developed style, holds your attention to the last word. Originally written in Esperanto. 1973. 150p. 180x125. Paper. Finland. ISBN 095-9005-27-7

ABI001 \$7.40

AFIŜO "KIA VI SENTAS VIN HODIAŬ?" Thirty cartoon faces show different emotional and mental states with the appropriate Esperanto adjective below. A great teaching device. Black on white background. The same faces appear on the shirts **SHI 071-075**. 1998. 765x510. USA.

AFI003 \$2.20

ARDES, *B. TORNADO (pseud.)*. Is this a science-fiction novel well-spiced with poems, or a series of poems with a tale woven around them for context? You decide! Either way, it's a richly imaginative and colorful display of storytelling. 1996. 180. 200x130. Paper. Russia. ISBN 5-7161-0026-0

ARD001 \$13.00

BILLY. This computer game is fun for children of all ages from three to ninety three! Somewhat similar to "Mario Brothers" but much more complex and quite a bit sillier. No violence. Five different worlds and more than a hundred levels to play in. Text and speech in numerous languages, including (of course) Esperanto. High-resolution graphics and excellent sound. CD-ROM format. 1997.

BIL003 \$30.70

CIKONI-KALIFO, LA, *Mihaelo BABITS*. Trans. Karlo BODÓ. A profound novel from one of Hungary's most important poets. Touching story of a split personality. Artfully translated. 1929. 187p. 170x105. Paper. Germany.

CIK001 \$1.50

KIEL ĈIUJ KATETOJ, *Agnieszka USAKIEWICZ*. Trans. Wojciech USAKIEWICZ. A collection of sweet animal stories with charming illustrations by Aleksander OCZKO. Suitable for school-aged children (not infants) due to the relatively advanced level of language. Perfect bedtime stories! 1993. 64p. 250x200. Hardbound. Poland. ISBN 83-8515981-9

KIE005 \$14.60

KONSTRUI FAJRON, *Jack LONDON*. Trans. D.C. Story by the well-known American author about the gold rush period in the Yukon. 1984. 27p. 205x145. Paper. France.

KON006 \$1.10

MAZI EN GONDOLANDO, *Div*. BBC first created this animated cartoon as a television series to teach English. It has been wonderfully translated and dubbed into Esperanto by a team of experienced teachers and voice actors. Quite

entertaining! Two videotapes, an audiotape, and a 160-page booklet. 1995. Netherlands-Poland.

MAZ001 \$127.80

NE TIEL, SED TIEL ĈI!, *F. FAULHABER*. Tips on style in Esperanto. An important aid for students and those unsure of the best application of Esperanto's flexible elegance. 1996 unchanged reprint of the 1965 edition. 64p. 205x145. Paper. France.

NET001 \$3.20

PIKNIKO ĈE LA VOJRANDO, *Arkadij & Boris STRUGACKIJ*. Trans. Mikaelo BRONŜTEJN. This is the novel on which the famous film "The Stalker" was based. What if there were a "Zone" where all normal rules of reality are suspended? What would happen to the brave adventurers who explore it? 1996. 191p. 200x130. Paper. Russia. ISBN 5-7161-0027-9

PIK002 \$9.10

Pin "**FIRST CHOICE FOR A SECOND LANGUAGE; UNUA ELEKTO POR DUA LINGVO: ESPERANTO**". Green on white background. Ø56 mm. 1998. USA.

PIN002 \$1.10

Pin "**NENIU FREMDULO EN ESPERANTUJO**". Dark green on light green background. Ø37 mm. 1998. USA.

PIN003 \$8.00

USONO NIGRE-BLANKE, *Ionel ONEȚ*. A compilation of basic facts about the United States of America, listed state by state. Includes maps and many surprising insights. 1998. 110p. 140x215. Spiralbound. USA. ISBN 1-882251-26-1

USO001 \$8.00

VIVO DE PROMETEO, *B. TORNADO (pseud.)*. A real epic poem based on a new interpretation of one of the most important myths of modern man. Aren't you curious about what kind of epic poems our language can produce? 1996. 263p. 200x130. Paper. Russia. ISBN 5-7161-0031-7

VIV009 \$9.10

VUALO DE L' TEMPO, *Ĝura*. Trans. Henri CASTIAU. A tale of the lives of Muslim women in Europe and their Algerian homeland with traditions which continue to influence their lives. Largely autobiographical, but with great scope across two interacting cultures. 1997. 168p. 235x155. Paper. France. ISBN 2-9502432-4-X

VUA002 \$14.30

WINNIE-LA-PU, *A. A. MILNE*. Trans. Ivy KELLERMAN REED and Ralph A. LEWIN. Winnie the Pooh and all his friends speak Esperanto. This classic children's book is also suitable for beginners because of the Esperanto-English glossary and some grammar notes. Illustrated by Ernest H. SHEPARD. Second edition 1992. 164p. 190x205. Hardbound. Netherlands. ISBN 92 9017 046 8

WIN001 \$16.50

INTERNET FAMILY GROWING

Here is a list of the many Websites which display the state of the Esperanto movement in the country of origin, many of which can be divined from the address itself!

<http://esperanto.agoronet.be>
<http://www.esperantisto.sk>
<http://www.esperanto-es.org>
<http://www.esperanto-kolombio.org>
<http://www.esperanto-usa.org>
<http://www.esperanto.ca>
<http://www.esperanto.ch>
<http://www.esperanto.de>
<http://www.esperanto.demon.co.uk>
<http://www.esperanto.dk>
<http://www.esperanto.net>
<http://www.esperanto.nu>
<http://www.esperanto.or.jp>
<http://www.esperanto.org>
<http://www.esperanto.org.au>
<http://www.esperanto.se>
<http://www.esperanto.sk>
<http://www.esperanto.stm.it>
<http://www.esperanto.mv.ru>

There are also a few private firms which take advantage of the name of the language, even though they have no relationship to any international language project:

<http://www.esperanto.com>
<http://www.esperantocom.com>

And here are a few other useful URL's:

<http://www.uea.org/>
<http://www.esperanto-edi-tools.com/>
<http://come.to/esperanto/>
<http://surf.to/esperanto/>
<http://start.at/esperanto/>

There are also several hundred personal home pages which use and/or mention Esperanto; also nearly two thousand Esperantists have listed their e-mail address. The list can be found in the Adresaro at <http://www.esperanto-usa.org/esp-adresaro.html>

ELNA's ANNILAE CONVENTION

We will have a joint congress with the Canadian Esperanto Association in one of North America's most beautiful cities, Montreal. This international convention will be a great setting to use the international language. Just send the convention fee of only \$60.00 to ELNA's C.O. and plan to meet new friends and old in Montreal 24-27 July. (Participants will need to contact the Rodway Inn [1-888-470-5500] to arrange lodging. Be sure to mention the Esperanto convention to get special rates. Don't delay: there are a limited number of rooms reserved for us.) There will be special performances by Kajto, Esperanto folk music group from the Netherlands, and live appearances by members of the Bonvolo family during screenings of the famous video project *Esperanto, Pasporto al la tuta mondo*.

Don't miss this one!

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