



# EOP Newsletter N°71 (September-October 2017)

<http://www.observatoireplurilinguisme.eu>

## **Editorial – When Europe wakes up (II) ! Recovering the power of speech !**

As the writer Laurent Binet reminds the readers in his humorous and talented thriller *The Seventh Function of Speech*, speech is a power, a function long unknown to the linguists. In this respect, Europe, or rather the European communities which have become the European Union, has always kept silent, desperately silent, on the matters of the world and on itself.

The diagnosis, was made a long time ago. It is no secret. The European Union never figured itself other than « a political and military extension of the American power » as Régis Debray puts it. Did recovering from the ruins of the Second World War condemn the European nations to being and behaving as eternal vassals. These words are cruel. The code name of the Normandy landings was « overlord ». Now, what does « overlord » mean ? It means suzerain. It is a whole programme which imprints its mark on 70 years of communal life. But times change. The Europeans seem to become aware that vassalage does not have advantages only.

So, if Europe, as a grouping of nations to which the state of the world imposes to link their futures, started to talk, it would be a good thing for everyone.

The weekly magazine *Le Point* headlines its front page of September 21 *Françagemagne, the Historical Pact*. In his various speeches, in particular in [his latest speech at the Sorbonne](#), the French president Emmanuel Macron gave a new impulse to foreign political power while falling within the scope of a historical multiseular continuity. Concerning the recent past, what extraordinary relationship with the speeches delivered at the time of the Franco-German treaty of 1963 whose ambition had been hindered by the circumstances of the time. There never was any mention of Germany and France leading Europe together. Yet no serious matter can be dealt with, without the Franco-German pair. It is for them to make proposals and to inspire without any monopoly. The [Elysee treaty](#) mentioned nothing else. What relationship also with the [Declaration of Copenhagen of December 14 & 15 1973 on European identity](#) which involved the nine member states (the six founding states + the United Kingdom, Ireland and Denmark which had just joined the European Union) and the future new members !

For example :

« 6. Although in the past the European countries were individually able to play a major rôle on the international scene,...->

Direction et rédaction : Christian Tremblay,  
Anne Bui

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-> present international problems are difficult for any of the Nine to solve alone. International developments and the growing concentration of power and responsibility in the hands of a very small number of great powers mean that Europe must unite and speak increasingly with one voice if it wants to make itself heard and play its proper rôle in the world.

8. The Nine, one of whose essential aims is to maintain peace, will never succeed in doing so if they neglect their own security. Those of them who are members of the Atlantic Alliance consider that in present circumstances there is no alternative to the security provided by the nuclear weapons of the United States and by the presence of North American forces in Europe: and they agree that in the light of the relative military vulnerability of Europe, the Europeans should, if they wish to preserve their independence, hold to their commitments and make constant efforts to ensure that they have adequate means of defence at their disposal....->

-> 14. The close ties between the United States and Europe of the Nine — we share values and aspirations based on a common heritage — are mutually beneficial and must be preserved. These ties do not conflict with the determination of the Nine to establish themselves as a distinct and original entity. The Nine intend to maintain their constructive dialogue and to develop their co-operation with the United States on the basis of equality and in a spirit of friendship. »

This text could have been written today. Yet the geostrategic context has changed a lot. Nothing or so little came out of those fine resolutions because of the incompatibility of the assertion of a political role of Europe, a Europe sovereign of sovereign States, and the structure of the NATO and the ensuing alignment. This alignment will reach its height with the invasion of Irak approved of by all the current governments of the time subject to the French veto at the Security Council and the position of the German government of Gerard Schröder who had withdrawn, declaring that he would not participate without being mandated by the UNO. A historical moment which was marked by the appearance of a European public opinion and by the beginning of a divorce between the European governments and their public opinions.

That was a long time ago. It is useless to mention the main events since 1973 which have modified the geostrategic balances and the Europeans' opinion of the world and of their American ally : the end of the Vietnam war (1975), a forty-year long war in Afghanistan (from 1979 up to now), the collapse of the Soviet bloc (1989), the two wars in Irak (1990-91, 2003-2011) and the extension of the conflicts in the Middle East (from 2014 to now), the enlargement of the European Union from 9 to 28 members, the breaking up of Yugoslavia, the Brexit etc.

It is true that speech is not enough. The word is only a beginning.

So let's look at the opposing armies, restricting ourselves to the United States, Europe and Russia.

Russia is the American elite's obsession. What is it really worth ?

- Military expenditure (billions of dollars and % calculated on more than 80% of the military expenditure in the world 2015) :

United States : 611, 45 → 98% ; Europe (France + United Kingdom + Germany + Italy) : 173 → 12,72% ; Russia : 62,9 → 5,09%

- GDP (Gross Domestic Product) in billions of dollars and % calculated on the world GDP in 2015 :

European Union : 18812 → 25,22% ; United States : 18562 → 24,88% ; Russia : 1325 → 1,78%

Therefore Russia represents 1,25 time the military power of France and 40% of the military power of the first four European powers . More, it is hardly more than the tenth of the American power. It spends twice less than France and five times less than the United States per inhabitant.

In terms of ODF, Russia represents 12% of the United States, 55% of France and 40% of Germany Consequently the bogey man of a certain kind of propaganda is just a paper monster. Yet material force is not enough. The influence exerted, the capacity of influence, the soft power count a lot too, which sends us back to speech.

For Russia, recovering a capacity of influence beyond its ...->

-> limited military capacities is a major stake.

For the United states, what has become of their soft power after the series of disasters quickly mentioned above. What about Europe?

In a debate organized by the newspaper *Libération* of November 26, 2011, whose subject was

[« Can culture give Europe a meaning ?](#)

, Umberto Eco had initiated this reflection «The fact of being a European is something you feel when you are abroad. This happened to me in the United States. At a party, after a couple of glasses, you rush towards the first Norwegian around to chat, with the feeling that you understand each other better. Of course in this case it is an identity felt at the cultural, intellectual level. The question is how to have everyone feel it. »

Nothing prevents Europe today from speaking in a single voice, according to the terms of the Copenhagen Declaration.

That's the whole point.

In [an interview given in 1965](#), Général De Gaulle explained that the grandeur of France (how is the word « grandeur » to be understood?) was to plead everywhere for peace, cooperation. Such was its ambition and it could not have any other. Today we can hold the same discourse for Europe and add to it the social model, sustainable development and the full and entire responsibility of our planet.

Disgruntled people will say that France considers Europe only as a greater France.

But really isn't it the pleading and acting for peace, cooperation and the protection of our planet and using all possible internal and external measures, the greater project for Europe. It is probably not the only innovation of the [Sorbonne Speech](#) (the partnership with Africa for example), but we must draw attention on the importance taken by culture, languages and multilingualism. These being major elements.

-> This kind of Europe cannot be identified by a *lingua ...*-> *franca*. It cannot be other than plurilingual and built on its langages. ◀

*To be followed in the next Letter*

The EOP is engaged in a long-term struggle which is a necessary battle, with multiple challenges. We have to be there for big and small decisions. This is the mission of the OEP. Together we must redouble our efforts. You can provide human support, participation in its work, or material support by joining the OEP or making a donation.

## It is the moment [to join EOP](#) and to share



### Recent articles not to be missed



**Macron, extrait du discours de la Sorbonne 26 septembre 2017 : un playdoyer pour le plurilinguisme**

"Le ciment le plus fort de l'Union sera toujours la culture et le savoir. Car cette Europe où chaque Européen reconnaît son destin dans le profil d'un temple grec ou le sourire de Mona Lisa, qui a pu connaître des émotions à travers toute l'Europe en lisant MUSIL ou PROUST,

[Lire la suite...](#)



**Le nouveau Bachelor de Polytechnique : Une première année dense et tout en anglais, français obligatoire**

Le 15 décembre 2015, l'École polytechnique dévoilait les grandes lignes d'une réforme en profondeur. Parmi les propositions avancées, la création d'un diplôme postbac en trois ans, sur le modèle du «Bachelor» anglo-saxon. Une grande nouveauté pour la prestigieuse école d'ingénieurs.

[Lire la suite...](#)



**After Brexit, EU English will be free to morph into a distinct variety (The Guardian)**

The European parliament building sporting some of the languages spoken by EU member states. The newfound neutrality of English in Europe may help it survive Brexit as the EU's lingua franca ... with the addition of a few distinctly un-British quirks. If your planification isn't up to snuff, you might need to precise your actorness. English in the EU, spoken primarily by non-native speakers, has taken on a life of its own. While "planification" might be jargon unlikely to pop up outside of Brussels,...

[Lire la suite...](#)

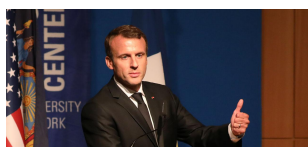





**Francophonie : quelles réalités, contradictions et perspectives ? (Diploweb.com-La revue géopolitique)**

Par Marie-Laure POLETTI, Pierre VERLUISE, Roger PILHION\*, le 21 septembre 2017. La francophonie, figure imposée de tout propos sur la place de la France dans le monde reste pourtant un impensé chez beaucoup de Français, y compris dans le personnel politique. En dehors de quelques grandes messes et figures imposées, le plus grand flou entoure ce sujet.

[Lire la suite...](#)

**[Macron s'investit dans le bilinguisme aux États-Unis](#)**



	<p>Par AFP agence et Le figaro.fr Publié le 21/09/2017 à 10h40 Le chef de l'État a lancé mercredi 20 septembre à New York un fonds de soutien aux programmes bilingues anglais-français. Une « œuvre de civilisation », qui se veut un rappel des bonnes relations existant entre les deux grandes nations...«Si le cosmopolitisme a un sens, il passe par le multilinguisme, pas par la domination d'une langue sur les autres.»...</p> <p><a href="#">Lire la suite...</a></p>
	<p><b>How to improve children's language awareness at primary school</b></p> <p>Source: The Conversation, September 4 2017 Young children have a lot to fit into each school day. So making the best use of the little time allocated to learning a foreign language is paramount. In England, state primary schools have been required to offer children aged seven to 11 a foreign language since 2014. This seems to chime with the common assumption, supported by research, that the...</p> <p><a href="#">Lire la suite...</a></p>
	<p><b>Why do human beings speak so many languages?</b></p> <p>Source: The Conversation, July 16th, 2017 The thatched roof held back the sun's rays, but it could not keep the tropical heat at bay. As everyone at the research workshop headed outside for a break, small groups splintered off to gather in the shade of coconut trees and enjoy a breeze. I wandered from group to group, joining in the discussions. Each time, I noticed that the language of the...</p> <p><a href="#">Lire la suite...</a></p>
	<p><b><a href="#">Meertaligheid op het werk</a></b></p> <p>Op 26 september in Brussel en op 29 september in Utrecht organiseert de Taalunie een <a href="#">debat over meertaligheid op het werk</a>. Meertaligheid is een realiteit. Ook in het Nederlandse en Vlaamse bedrijfsleven. Het onderzoek de Staat van het Nederlands bracht in kaart hoe het daarin met meertaligheid is gesteld. De resultaten op een rij.</p> <p><a href="#">Meer lezen...&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</a></p>
	<p><b>Une association este en justice contre l'anglicisation des cours à l'université</b></p> <p>Mediapart - 24 juil. 2017 Par Vincent Doumayrou Blog : Des Transports nommés soupir Dans une tribune parue dans le quotidien De Volkskrant, un universitaire dénonce la médiocrité induite par le basculement sans rivage vers l'anglicisation de l'enseignement supérieur néerlandais et annonce qu'il va saisir la justice à l'encontre de cette politique. Par Felix Huygen, professeur de lettres...</p> <p><a href="#">Lire la suite...</a></p>
	<p><b>"Imposer l'anglais dans la recherche, c'est faire preuve de provincialisme!" (Antoine Chollet - Le Temps 8/3/2015)</b></p> <p>Le Fonds national pour la recherche scientifique veut contraindre les chercheurs en science politique à remettre leurs projets en anglais. Une décision autoritaire, selon Antoine Chollet, de l'Université de Lausanne, et qui de plus repose sur une vision du monde dépassée. La vision du monde du FNS, dépassée et provinciale Cela fait plusieurs années que le Fonds national suisse de la...</p> <p><a href="#">Lire la suite...</a></p>
<p><b>It is the moment <a href="#">to join EOP</a></b></p>	



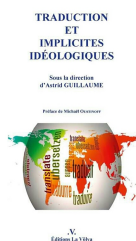


## Announcements and publications

L'OEP recherche des traducteurs bénévoles en anglais  
 Merci d'écrire à [contact@observatoireplurilinguisme.eu](mailto:contact@observatoireplurilinguisme.eu)

### Les publications de l'OEP

[Plurilinguisme, interculturalité et emploi : Défis pour l'Europe](#), L'Harmattan, 2009, 33,73 € (papier), 27,99 € (numérique) • 408 pages [COMMANDER](#)  
[Culture et plurilinguisme \(papier\)](#), 2016, La Völva, 189 p., 14 € [COMMANDER](#)  
[Culture et plurilinguisme \(numérique\)](#), 2017, Bookelis, 4,99 € [COMMANDER](#)  
[Plurilinguisme et créativité scientifique](#), 2017, Thebookedition, 138 p., 12,99 € (papier), 5,99 € (numérique) [COMMANDER](#)  
[Plurilinguisme et enseignement du français en Afrique subsaharienne](#), 2017, Bookelis, 282 p., 15 € (papier), 4,99 € (numérique) [COMMANDER](#)



### Réédition de *Traduction et implicites idéologiques*

Sous la direction d'Astrid Guillaume, préface de Michaël OUSTINOFF

Aujourd'hui épuisé aux Editions La Völva, *Traduction et implicites idéologiques* a pu bénéficier d'une 2<sup>de</sup> édition en ligne, lui offrant une meilleure diffusion et une visibilité accrue via le site de la Revue électronique dirigée par François Rastier, *Texto!*, *Textes et cultures*: <http://www.revue-texto.net/>  
 Le livre se trouve désormais sous ce lien:

<http://www.revue-texto.net/docannexe/file/3909/traduction.pdf>



### Management interculturel. Comprendre et gérer la diversité culturelle (Ulrike Mayrhofer, 2017)

Comment améliorer la compréhension des différences culturelles dans un contexte mondial en mutation ? Quel est l'impact de ces différences sur l'organisation des activités, la gestion des ressources humaines, le marketing et la négociation ? Cet ouvrage offre une vision complète et actuelle du management interculturel, à partir des multiples facettes du concept de culture. L'auteur présente les caractéristiques de nombreuses cultures nationales et leur gestion du temps, de l'espace et de la communication. Il donne de nombreux conseils afin de mieux gérer les situations...

[Lire la suite...](#)



### Investigación y ciencia: Revista Especial Multilingüismo

En un mundo cada vez más conectado y cosmopolita, el conocimiento de diferentes idiomas se está convirtiendo en una capacidad cada vez más necesaria y extendida entre la población. Esta revista monográfica (en PDF) aborda los aspectos cognitivos y psicológicos del aprendizaje de otras lenguas, así como las capacidades lingüísticas de las personas plurilingües.

[Contenido de este número...>>>>](#)

### Publication du « Rapport sur la valeur économique de la traduction de livres » en Espagne

	<p><a href="#">ACE Traductores</a> (Espagne) a présenté un <i>Rapport sur la valeur économique de la traduction de livres</i>, préparé par l'agence de conseil AFI et financé par le Ministère de la culture et CEDRO, le principal Centre espagnol des droits de reproduction.</p> <p><a href="#">Voici quelques résultats de cette étude...&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</a></p>
	<p><b>Neuerscheinung: Die Vermessung der Sprache – Zu Geschichte und Bedeutung des Sprachatlas der deutschen Schweiz</b></p> <p>swiss academies reports, Vol. 12, Nr. 4, 2017 von Pascale Schaller/Alexandra Schiesser in der Schwerpunktreihe Sprachen und Kulturen, Eigenverlag SAGW, Heft VIII, Bern 2017 Der achte Band der Reihe «Sprachen und Kulturen» ist der Entstehungsgeschichte des Sprachatlasses der deutschen Schweiz (SDS) gewidmet: <a href="http://www.sprachatlas.ch/">http://www.sprachatlas.ch/</a> Die SAGW dokumentiert in loser Folge Wert wie auch Nutzen der Dialektforschung und die Relevanz der Dialekte als kulturelles und sprachliches Erbe. <a href="#">Mehr...&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</a></p>
	<p><b>Políticas Linguísticas para o Multilinguismo</b></p> <p>Publicado em <a href="#">IPOL em ação</a> 15/9/17</p> <p>A palestra do Prof. Gilvan Muller de Oliveira no I Congresso Mundial de Bilinguismo e Línguas de Herança, que ocorreu em Brasília de 15 a 17 de agosto de 2017 relaciona uma série de frentes para a compreensão e a promoção do multilinguismo.</p> <p>Confira mais no <a href="#">link</a>.</p>
	<p><b>5th International Conference "Crossroads of Languages and Cultures"</b></p> <p>The Centre for Intercultural and Migration Studies of the Department of Primary Education/CERS of the University of Crete, Greece organizes the 5th International Conference 'Crossroads of Languages and Cultures' (CLC5) with the cooperation of Polydromo (<a href="http://www.polydromo.gr">http://www.polydromo.gr</a>). The theme for CLC5 is 'Languages and Cultures at Home and at School'...</p> <p><a href="#">Go to conference website...&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;&gt;</a></p>
	<p><b>Colloque international Politique européenne d'accueil. Ethique de la traduction</b></p> <p>Organisé par le Groupe SOS Jeunesse, l'Inalco, Technische Universität Dresden, en partenariat avec ISM Interprétariat 7, 8 et 9 décembre 2017 Auditorium de l'Inalco (Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales) 65 rue des grands moulins, 75013 Paris</p> <p>Que serait une éthique de la traduction appliquée à la politique européenne d'accueil des migrants ? Quelles valeurs, quels repères ?</p> <p><a href="#">Lire la suite</a></p>
	<p><b>Call for papers: Language and Borders: Rethinking Mobility, Migration and Space</b></p> <p>Deadline: October 31st, 2017</p> <p>The conference is going to take place in Bristol, March 26th and 27th</p> <p>The widespread movement of people and their linguistic repertoires has contributed to growing pressure on the model of the nation-state and related notions of linguistically and culturally homogeneous societies. Supposed homogeneity of communities is contingent on the notion of the border as a device of containment.</p> <p><a href="#">More</a></p>
	<p><b>Approches multiples du langage en situation : implications théoriques, pratiques et pédagogiques (Appel à contribution du Groupement d'Etudes Management et Langage GEM&amp;L). Ateliers du GEM&amp;L 2017</b></p>

**IESEG School of Management Parvis de la Défense, Campus de la Grande Arche, 92800 PARIS Jeudi 19 octobre 2017**

**Appel à contribution**

Dans l'environnement mondialisé de l'entreprise la question du langage et de la communication se pose de manière centrale et non plus périphérique. Les langues pratiquées au quotidien dans le contexte professionnel ne peuvent plus être considérées comme un simple code transparent et neutre qu'il suffirait au praticien d'acquiescer et de reproduire sur le modèle de la compétence du « native speaker ».

[Lire la suite](#)



**... et le monde parlera français (Roger Pilhion, Marie-Laure Poletti, mai 2017) Iggybook.com, paru le : 22/05/2017**

Nostalgie, arrogance, utopie... ? Une part importante des opinions publiques pense que l'anglais est en passe de devenir ou est devenu une lingua franca universelle. La mondialisation a, en effet, produit une situation d'hégémonie linguistique sans précédent. Mais celle-ci pourrait avoir atteint ses limites. La perte d'influence des États-Unis d'Amérique dans le monde, la recherche de contre-pouvoirs, la revendication de la diversité, et les technologies de l'information et de la communication ont ouvert des brèches.

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