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5th European Conference for Plurilingualism
« The Plurilingualism in the Sustainable Development »
(Bucharest 23-24 may 2019)

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Editorial – Francophonie has a bright future ahead of it

March 20 is the International Day of Francophonie, an opportunity to take stock of this rather unknown reality. Some see it as a pure extension of the French language of France, whose future would be bleak. Others see it as a colonial legacy to be liquidated as a matter of urgency

Or others imagine it as a literary empire, a major part of a world literary republic. We can extend for a long time the list of representations, each of which has a variable part of truth. In any case, an attempt at clarification is necessary.

Let us start by indicating that there are two francophonies. First of all, there is the francophonie of French speakers, which can be compared to the world of English speakers, Spanish speakers, Portuguese speakers, Arabic speakers, Chinese speakers, etc.

But there is also, the only case of this kind, an institutional francophonie whose number of member countries represents a small half of the UN member countries.

Let's start with the francophonie of the French speakers and continue with the institutional Francophonie (note the capital "F") and its global challenges.

Since the famous report by Professor David Graddol published by the British Council in 1997, *The Future of English*, speakers have begun to be estimated, not only in terms of "natives", but also in terms of "second language" speakers (and not "the second language" you learn in high school), i.e. speakers who do not have the language we are referring to as their mother tongue but use it daily, and thirdly, learners or those who have learned a language as a foreign language. This constitutes three circles called L1, L2 and EFL (English as a Foreign Language).

In 1995, there were 375 million native English speakers, 375 million "second language" and 750 million speakers using English as a foreign language. Of course, this categorization is relative and can evolve, with EFL speakers slipping into the L2 category and L2 moving into L1. In the latter case, it is sufficient that the transmission of the mother tongue within the family and at school be carried out in a satisfactory manner, and a speaker initially ...->

Direction and writing : Christian Tremblay,
Anne Bui

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-> in L2 can legitimately be categorized in L1. It should be noted that the accuracy of the data is lower for category L2 than for category L1 and lower for category EFL than for the two previous ones.

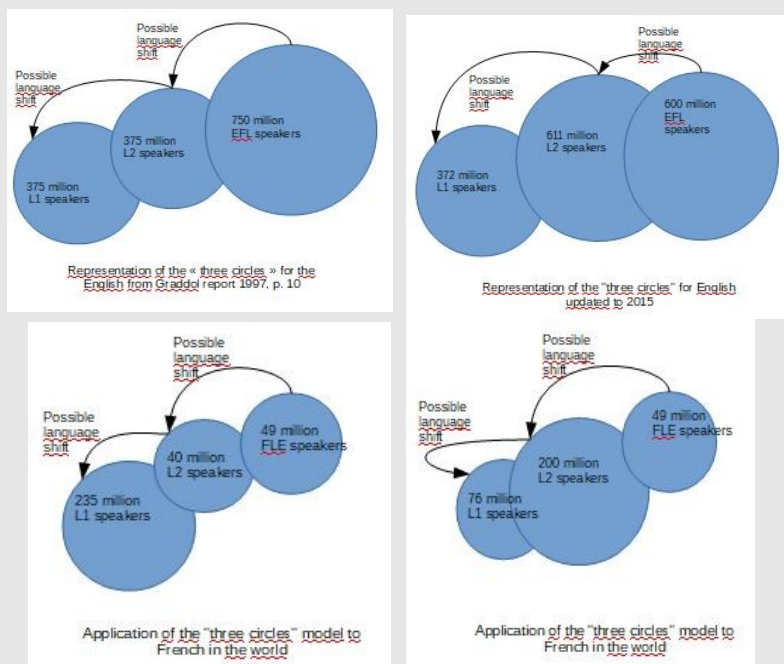
It should also be added that in the Graddol report, only English speakers were estimated in L2 and EFL, while speakers of the other languages were counted only as native speakers, which prevented any serious comparison. In particular, in 1995, the French language was credited with 72 million speakers.

An interesting compilation of all existing sources can be found on Wikipedia¹ to come to comparisons of these "three circles".

These figures, translated into graphical form, limited to English and ...->

1 https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liste_de_langues_par_nombre_total_de_locuteurs

-> French for lack of space, give these two graphs:



These last two graphs for the French language call for a comment. The left one, which gives 235 million in L1, is based on the OIF's International Observatory of the French Language, while the right one is a reconstruction intended to make the data for French and English fully comparable. Indeed, the OIF does not strictly retain "natives" insofar as the notion of "natives", which in reality refers to "historical nations", is of doubtful legitimacy. Some French speakers in Abidjan, to take just one example, are as much "native" as some French speakers in France.

It should be added that the OIF's numbering is minimal because it is based on various sources and only tries to estimate the number of speakers with a level of expression that allows them to be qualified as French speakers.

Other ways of counting exist based on the number of inhabitants of countries with French as their official language. This is the case of CERLF (Centre d'études et de recherche sur le monde francophone) and FERDI², the latter thus defining a linguistic space:

A linguistic space, as defined in the report *Le poids économique de la langue française dans le monde* (2013), includes any country with more than 500,000 inhabitants which meets one of the following conditions:

- *de jure* dimension: the language considered is the official language;
- *de facto* dimension: a significant fraction (20%) of the population speaks the language in question (some countries may therefore belong simultaneously to several areas)

As we can see, the aims are not the same. According to FERDI criteria, the English-speaking area would have 2.5 billion people, while the French-speaking area would have 480 million, or one fifth of the English-speaking world, but making the French-speaking area the third largest language area after English and Mandarin.

It is useful to have orders of size and importance...->

-> And if projections are made about the future, they depend on two factors: the demographic prospects drawn up by the United Nations for each country and region of the world, and the prospects for school enrolment. The latter factor does not count if the enumeration is based on official languages, but it is as decisive as the first factor if we refer to the IFM method. In any case, given the importance of Africa, which now accounts for more than 59% of French speakers (15% North Africa, 44% Sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian Ocean), the French-speaking area is the most vigorous. It is to be hoped that the demographic transition (reduction in mortality, followed by a reduction in fertility) already very much underway in many countries will be faster. The fact is that by 2065, the French-speaking area should exceed one billion, or a quarter of the English-speaking area (4 billion), while average projections give 711 million for the Arabic-speaking area and 586 million for the Spanish-speaking area.

Let us now turn to the institutional Francophonie, the OIF. Composed of 88 States and governments (61 members and 27 observers), it is a fully-fledged international organization that some see as the heir to the colonial empire, which it is not. Unlike the Commonwealth, France did not participate in its creation. Three heads of state, Léopold Sedar Senghor, President of Senegal, Diiori Hamani, President of Niger and Habib Bourguiba, President of Tunisia, were soon followed by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who prompted the signing in Niamey, on 20 March 1970, by representatives of 21 States and governments, of the Convention establishing the Agency for Cultural and Technical Cooperation (ACCT). From 1986, on the initiative of François Mitterrand, the practice of summits of heads of state and government every two years became more systematic and in 1995 the organisation set up a Secretary General, the first of whom would be the Egyptian Boutros ...->

<p>-> Boutros-Ghali, former Secretary-General of the United Nations, to whom Abdou Diouf, former President of the Republic of Senegal, would succeed in 2002. And it is in 2005 at the Ministerial Conference in Antananarivo (Madagascar) that the name "Organisation internationale de la Francophonie" will be dedicated. Given its origin, the OIF has focused its activity on development issues and technical and cultural cooperation.</p> <p>If we take the agenda of the 1986 Versailles Summit, it was organized around four themes: development, cultural and communication industries, language industries and technological development linked to research and scientific information.</p> <p>Over the course of the summits, culture and education, the original fields of Francophone cooperation, have been joined by the political field (peace, democracy and human rights), sustainable development, the economy and digital technologies. The Institut de la Francophonie pour le développement durable (IFDD) was created in Quebec City in 1988 and the <i>Institut de la Francophonie pour l'éducation et la formation</i> (IFEFF) in Dakar in 2015.</p> <p>We are entitled to ask ourselves the question of what the strategic challenges facing the Francophonie at the world level are.</p> <p>Everyone can have their own reading. We therefore give that of the OEP</p> <p>The first issue is first and foremost that of plurilingualism. This is not insignificant, because it is an ideological shift at the level of the entire planet. Monolingualism is an ideology that claims that all reality can be reduced to a single language, the dominant language of course, that is, the language of the country that wants to dominate all others. Seen in another way, monolingualism is also about wanting to reduce reality to what your own language says, a world of its own, a being in itself. This is also called essentialism. Plurilingualism is the opposite. Ultimately you could say that you never have enough languages to express everything. That is why languages must be preserved, but at the same time they must constantly evolve. It's a different world.</p> <p>And from this point of view, contrary to many completely erroneous representations, the French-speaking world is the most plurilingual there is, and this is due not to Europe, but to Africa. Léopold Sedar Senghor liked to repeat "In the ruins of colonialism, we found this wonderful tool, the French language". At no time in its history has the French language corresponded to the French nation, even if the French monarchy played a fundamental role in its influence and expansion. But if, according to Senghor's thought, the French language is a gift from France, conversely, plurilingualism is a gift from Africa.</p> <p>This is a very good basis, in our opinion, for thinking out globalization.</p> <p>It is also well known that the continent that will develop the most by the end of this century is Africa. The evolution of the world and demographics have decided so. Therefore the future of the world is largely in Africa, the continent with the largest number of languages, but also has 4 international languages that have also become African languages, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish. And as we said before, Africa represents almost 60% of today's francophonie, and more than 80% tomorrow. So the challenges of francophonie are the challenges of Africa. In Africa, the transmission of African languages and, at the same time, the appropriation of international languages are two-></p>	<p>-> complementary and non-competing issues that are truly crucial and closely linked to development.</p> <p>After plurilingualism, the second challenge is education.</p> <p>Given the youth of the population, the efficiency and quality of education systems are the first lever of development. There is obviously a linguistic dimension, which has been recognized as a key point in educational processes for many years. It is the question of the relationship between local languages and the teaching languages which are the international languages already mentioned. Many French speaking governments are committed to working with the OIF to ensure that local languages, when it is possible, are used in education, especially in the lower grades, to both improve the efficiency of teaching, including the learning of French, while facilitating the transmission of local languages.</p> <p>The third major challenge is obviously the challenge of economic development, which can be sustainable only if it is based on two conditions: the efficiency and quality of education and political stability and a good management.</p> <p>Finally, the fourth major challenge: The African, French and Latin American dimensions must be fully assumed by Europe.</p> <p>The word equilibrium is no longer what it used to be, neither at the time of the Cold War nor in the decades following the fall of the Soviet bloc.</p> <p>Today we have two super powers, the United States and China, competing economically and technologically. The United States is waging a complete economic war through the way of intelligence service, espionage and legal and financial coercion. The victims of which being in the end the Europeans, who are treated more as vassals than allies and more as rivals and adversaries than partners, are ultimately wind up as collateral victims. It is not insignificant to repeat that the United States' military budget represents nearly 40% of the world's military spending, and 3 times more than its direct adversary. It is-></p>
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-> therefore time for Europe to acquire a geostrategic vision.
Without going into detail, far be it from us to reduce everything to language issues. But it is clear that there are few subjects where language and education issues are absent. This is what is at ...->

-> stake at the **5th European Conference on Plurilingualism.**
Fin ◀

If you think that the OEP is doing good analysis and promoting good ideas, do not hesitate to support it. THE OEP NEEDS YOU.

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Articles not to be missed

Certification en langue pour l'obtention de la licence ? Une lettre ouverte des CLES au Premier ministre !



Voici la réponse de la coordination nationale du CLES (certification publique) sous forme de lettre ouverte au Premier Ministre, concernant la mise en place d'une certification en langue pour l'obtention de la licence. Monsieur le Premier Ministre, Nous sommes consternés d'apprendre aujourd'hui, à l'occasion d'un comité de pilotage de la certification CLES à Paris, que suite à l'arrêté Licence (arrêté du 30 juillet 2018 relatif au diplôme national de licence), vous avez arbitré et fait inscrire dans Les bleus de Matignon mi-décembre – et cela sans concertation...

[Lire la suite...](#)

Le Monde

« La recherche francophone en sciences de gestion n'a aucune raison d'accepter une soumission à un ordre anglo-saxon »

Dans une tribune au « Monde », 100 enseignants et chercheurs en gestion appellent les autorités académiques françaises à contester la domination des revues anglophones dans l'évaluation de leurs travaux. Publié le 20 février 2019 à 07h00 - Mis à jour le 22 février 2019 à 16h29 Pour évaluer la recherche en sciences de gestion, un principe s'est imposé : celui de se baser sur les seuls articles publiés dans des revues académiques, au détriment des autres formes de production scientifique (ouvrages, rapports de recherche, etc.). Dans ce cadre, le...

[Lire la suite...](#)



En Islande, le gouvernement s'inquiète de l'invasion de la langue anglaise dans sa culture

France Info, 3 janvier 2019 - Un drapeau islandais. (THORVALDUR ORN KRISMUNDSSON / AFP) Des chercheurs s'inquiètent de voir les jeunes Islandais apprendre de plus en plus tôt l'anglais au risque, selon eux, de moins bien parler à terme, l'islandais. En Islande, l'usage de l'anglais a explosé ces dernières années notamment en raison de l'importance des nouvelles technologies. La langue islandaise n'est parlée que par les 355 000 habitants du pays et les quelque 50 000 Islandais expatriés en dehors du pays. À l'école, les enfants apprennent...

[Lire la suite...](#)

« Dans un salon consacré au livre, et à la littérature française, n'est-il plus possible de parler français ? » (Au salon du livre de Paris)



Dans une tribune collective au « Monde », une centaine d'écrivains, d'essayistes,



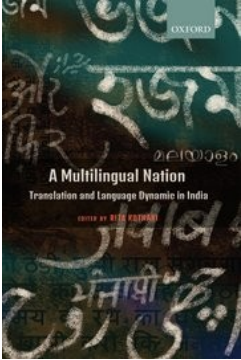
	<p>de journalistes et d'artistes s'indignent de voir le « globish », un sous-anglais, supplanter notre langue dans les médias, à l'université et jusqu'au prochain salon « Livre Paris ». Tribune. « Pour la deuxième année consécutive, la littérature Young Adult est mise à l'honneur au salon... Lire la suite...</p>
	<p>L'anglais à Livre Paris, exception culturelle ou Anciens contre Modernes ? Source : AL-ActuaLitté, 8 février 2019 Une centaine d'auteurs français a signé, le 26 janvier dernier, une tribune très agressive à l'encontre du salon Livre Paris, pour son usage jugé excessif de termes anglophones et de « globish ». Le salon, qui se déroulera en mars prochain à Paris, changera les noms des événements incriminés, mais conservera au contraire l'expression... Lire la suite...</p>
	<p>Primeiro, pensa em português. Depois, fala em búlgaro. Qual é a língua materna dos filhos dos imigrantes? IPOL, publicado em 27/02/2019 Comemora-se esta quinta-feira o Dia Internacional da Língua Materna. Instituído pela UNESCO em 1999, este dia é uma forma de celebrar e preservar a diversidade linguística. O repórter Miguel Videira foi à descoberta da família Venev, onde as línguas portuguesa e búlgara convivem diariamente. É alto, de olhos azuis e estrutura forte. Chegou a Portugal... Lire la suite...</p>
	<p>Migrant children buck the trend when it comes to mother tongue teaching 20 février 2019 School success amongst immigrant children is not the norm. However a small percentage do manage. Some even outperform locals. What can we learn from their experiences? Language skills are generally regarded as being critical in an immigrant's integration into the new countries they move to. And research has shown that better language skills lead to better performance. A... Lire la suite...</p>
	<p>La lengua se compra y se vende (El País) 13.01.19 Si España es el territorio económicamente dominante en la lengua, ¿cómo no tendría su industria esa preponderancia? En el prólogo a su traducción de Comienzo y fin de la nieve, de Yves Bonnefoy, escribe Arturo Carrera: “Traducción es devoción”. Y luego, hacia el final, agrega: “Pero sobre todo me acompaña siempre aquella otra idea de Bonnefoy: que traducir no es... Lire la suite...</p>
	<p>Language learning: German and French drop by half in UK schools Source: BBC News, 27 February 2019 Foreign language learning is at its lowest level in UK secondary schools since the turn of the millennium, with German and French falling the most. BBC analysis shows drops of between 30% and 50% since 2013 in the numbers taking GCSE language courses in the worst affected areas in England. A separate survey of secondaries suggests a third have dropped at... Lire la suite...</p>


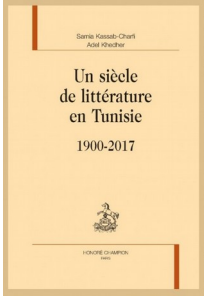
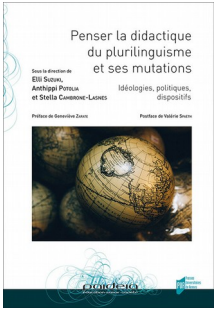
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Annonces et parutions

	<p>5es Assises européennes du plurilinguisme 23-24 mai 2019 – Bucarest (OEP et Académie d'Études Économiques de Bucarest) Le plurilinguisme dans le développement durable C'est maintenant qu'il faut s'inscrire Rendez-vous sur le site dédié :</p> <p>https://assises.observatoireplurilinguisme.eu/</p> <p>et pour s'inscrire directement : https://www.helloasso.com/associations/observatoire-europeen-du-plurilinguisme/evenements/5es-assises-europeennes-du-plurilinguisme</p>
	<p><u>La domination de l'anglais : Un défi pour l'Union européenne - Autour de la réédition en français du livre de Robert Phillipson (Libre & Solidaire - Paris)</u></p> <p>Quel est le rôle des langues dans le processus d'intégration européenne ? Quelles mesures prendre pour éviter que la langue utilisée en Europe soit l'anglais ? Le respect des langues de chaque pays doit être au cœur des préoccupations de l'Union européenne. Le multilinguisme, inscrit dans le traité de Lisbonne, est essentiel pour les pays membres. Il est le reflet de la...</p> <p>Lire la suite...</p>
	<p>A Multilingual Nation - Translation and Language Dynamic in India by Rita Kothari, 18 January 2018, Oxford University Press, ISBN: 9780199478774</p> <p>A comprehensive work in the field of Translation Studies in the Indian context, linking language politics to translation</p> <p>This anthology takes head on some of the cardinal principles of translation and illustrates how they do not apply to India. The idea of 'source' - the language and text you translate from - is in a multilingual society slippery and protean, refusing to be confined to any one language.</p> <p>More...</p>
	<p>Le multilinguisme. De la créativité littéraire à la traduction (Fès, Maroc)</p> <p>Appel à communication : date limite des propositions d'article : 30 avril 2019 Voir l'appel à communications...</p>
	<p>Didactique des langues et plurilinguisme(s) : 30 ans de recherches Université Grenoble Alpes (France) - 14 et 15 novembre 2019</p> <p>Appel à communication : date limite des propositions d'article : 1er avril 2019 Pour en savoir plus</p>

	<p>Bilinguisme, plurilinguisme : mythes et réalités. Quels atouts pour la francophonie ?</p> <p>Biennale de la Langue Française Lieu: Chicago (États-Unis) Date de l'événement: 2 au 5 octobre 2019 Date limite : 16 mars 2019 La Biennale de la langue française et ses partenaires organisent un colloque international qui se tiendra à Chicago du 2 au 5 octobre autour de la thématique « Bilinguisme, plurilinguisme : mythes et réalités. Quels atouts pour la francophonie ? ».</p> <p>Lire la suite...</p>
	<p>Un siècle de littérature en Tunisie 1900-2017 (Samia Kassab-Charfi et Adel Khedher)</p> <p>Dans les recensions, dictionnaires de la littérature et anthologies, la part de la Tunisie n'est pas toujours représentée à sa juste mesure. Cet ouvrage souhaite donner une meilleure visibilité aux littératures contemporaines produites dans ce pays, qu'elles soient de langue arabe ou française. Partant du début du XXe siècle pour aller jusqu'aux premières années du XXIe, les...</p> <p>Lire la suite...</p>
	<p>Parution : Penser la didactique du plurilinguisme et ses mutations? Idéologies, politiques, dispositifs</p> <p>Auteur(s) : SUZUKI Elli, ANTHIPI Potolia, CAMBRONE-LASNES Stella (dir.) Presses universitaires de Rennes, Coll. PAIDEIA, 2019, ISBN : 978-2-7535-7553-0 Partant des discours idéologiques et politiques mis en oeuvre par les états et les institutions en matière de plurilinguisme, cet ouvrage examine et interroge d'abord leur sens, grâce aux concepts que la didactique du plurilinguisme...</p> <p>Lire la suite...</p>
	<p>Cosmopolis</p> <p>A Review of Cosmopolitics - Revue de cosmopolitique Dear Readers, Please find herewith the contents of Issue 2018/3-4, Volume 9 of Cosmopolis. It is available online at: http://www.cosmopolis-rev.org The Editor *** Chers Lecteurs, Veuillez trouver ci-joint le sommaire du numéro 2018/3-4, volume 9 de Cosmopolis, accessible à l'adresse : http://www.cosmopolis-rev.org La Rédaction</p>
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