



EuroLinguistics Newsletter

No. 2 (January 2006) The EuroLinguistic Circle of Mannheim (ELAMA, e.V.) on behalf of The EuroLinguistic Association (ELA)

Editorial

Dear EuroLinguists,

In this issue four conferences during 2005 are presented here in which Elama played an active role of organization and lecturing: in Rome (April), Mannheim (May), Uppsala (Sept.) and Vilnius (Nov.). Noteworthy in 2005 was the foundation of EuroLinguistica Sud, a branch of the larger association to be founded in 2006, EuroLinguistic Association (ELA), at the 7th EuroLinguistics Symposium planned for Berlin (Humboldt Univ.) in Oct. 5-8, 2006. All interested EuroLinguists are cordially invited to Berlin!

Finally, we want to remind all active participants to send in their contributions of the Uppsala Symposium before March 1, 2006 to the following address:

Sture.Ureland@elama.de

With the best EuroLinguistic greetings,
P. S. Ureland,
1st Chairman of ELAMA

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1. In Rome: "Tavola Rotonda on founding a Euro-linguistic Association – aims, concepts and international cooperation"

(Paper given at the Convegno Internazionale at Università degli Studi di Roma "La Sapienza", *EuroLinguistica e Multiculturalità*, in collaborazione con L'Università di Roma Tre, April 11 and 12, 2005)

Opening and welcome

Dear colleagues and friends of EuroLinguistics,

On behalf of *EuroLinguistischer Arbeitskreis Mannheim* (ELAMA), I welcome you all to this round table which will prepare for the foundation of a Europe-wide *EuroLinguistic Association*. We will be mainly concerned with the background, aims and purposes of such an association and leave the formal procedures and modalities to the upcoming Uppsala Symposium in September of this year. In advance of any formal decision it was considered better to give the members belonging to the newly constituted *EuroLinguistica Sud* an opportunity to express their opinions about such a wide-ranging EuroLinguistic association. We will have to elect a president, a vice-president, a secretary, a treasurer, an editor of a yearbook and accountants for EuroLinguistic Association (ELA), the overall organization to be named and constituted. Here I will deal with three different topics:

- background and reasons for founding a EuroLinguistic Association;

- aims, concepts and international cooperation in EuroLinguistics; and
- the historical parallel between our undertaking and the goals of *Circle Linguistique de Prague (CLP)*, our model and precursor.

Background and reasons for founding a Europe-wide association

The decision to found a Europe-wide EuroLinguistic Association was taken unanimously by a local committee in St Andrews, Scotland, last year on June 12, 2004, when ten members of the 5th Symposium from Belgium, Croatia, Germany, Italy, Scotland and Sweden



"Minerva", the symbol of "La Sapienza", Univ. of Rome

convened and discussed the foundation of such an association based on the model and constitution already set by ELAMA. However, most of the members of the panel represented European languages north of the Alps excepting two persons. Therefore it was my pleasure in Rome to be amply outnumbered by eight EuroLinguists south of the Alps, who founded *EuroLinguistica Sud* on April 11, in an informal meeting which was attended by eight persons.¹



Aims, concepts and international cooperation in EuroLinguistics

Europe is a relatively large continent with complicated ethnic and linguistic diversity. Following the motto of the European Union "Unity in diversity", this diversity necessitates the cooperation of a larger and more complete panel of experienced scholars than was present in St Andrews in 2004 in order to lay the groundwork for describing the convergence and divergence of linguistic and cultural diversity in Europe, which was also the title of the Rome Convegno Internazionale in April 2005 *EuroLinguistica e Multiculturalità*. As most members in the Tavola Rotonda in Rome came from southern Europe, we were assembled to complement the limited list of northern European participants in St Andrews. With their expertise of southern Europe they covered France, Italy, Greece and Spain/Portugal. However, in a panel which was supposed to cover the major part of Europe, members from East- and West-European areas should also be present; these were also lacking in St Andrews. Since our main axis of geographical distribution is north

¹ See picture with the following persons from left to right: Christiana Pugliese (Università di Molise); Aniello Angelo Avella (Università di Roma); Josè Maria Jiménez Cano (Universidad de Murcia); Paola Placella (Università di Roma); Sture Ureland (Honorary member, Universität Mannheim); Giuseppe Castorina (Università di Roma "La Sapienza"); Gheorghe Carageani (Università di Roma "La Sapienza") and Stefano Arduini (Università di Urbino).

and south of the Alps - EuroLinguistics North and EuroLinguistics South - the addition of further points of orientation in EuroLinguistics West and EuroLinguistics East has been found to be necessary for the future, when the concept of EuroLinguistics will gain broader acceptance and additional members of the west and the east will subscribe to the view of Europe as a linguistic and cultural unit.

Therefore, Dr Olga Voronkova, Heidelberg/Mannheim, had been asked to cover some of these lesser-known eastern languages and cultures by presenting some of the major schools of EuroLinguistics which deal with EuroLinguistics East and Southeast (the Baltic States, Russia, the Caucasus and the Euroasian areas).

Aims and international cooperation

With the constitution of *EuroLinguistica Sud*, an important step had been taken in this direction. To be certain, we were concerned with a declaration of intent for a much wider European development of linguistics which would achieve a *true pan-European perspective*. How were we to approach the East-European areas with their numerous languages and peoples in the EU-enlargement process? Should we leave them aside because they were new or not yet members of the European Union or Nato? Certainly not, it would mean an incomplete treatment or perspective. Not only was I thinking of the geographical neglect in the treatment of these eastern linguistic areas, but also of the sociopolitical neglect of important linguistic theory formation and expertise in not recognizing the East-European contributions to EuroLinguistics. On the

whole one can ascertain that there can be no exclusion of linguistics in Russia, Poland, or the Czech and Slovak Republics in the past and the present, if we want to claim a relevant Europe-wide approach to EuroLinguistics. One can point out the valuable contributions of Slavic linguistics to EuroLinguistics embodied in the schools of eastern universities and academies: the so-called Moscow School, the St Petersburg School and those of Kasan, Charkov, Warsaw, and, last but not least, that of Prague. There is no isolated Russian, Polish or Czech linguistics. They all belong to the development and evolution of European linguistics - EuroLinguistics. This view, as presented by Olga Voronkova in her paper, would furnish us with a basis for developing an international network of experts for *EuroLinguistica.org*. We need to hear all the voices of EuroLinguistics North and South, East and West and even include European language studies overseas - *Global EuroLinguistics* - before deciding on the essence and geographical outlines of this new discipline of linguistics. This was what students in Rome expected of us EuroLinguists in our attempts to innovate and reform language studies by creating a new type of linguistics with a human face - *EuroLinguistics*. The goals of EuroLinguistics were received with Europe-minded enthusiasm among the students and teachers of Rome in April 2005 - this response was so spontaneous that one could speak of a significant "Wende" in European linguistics.

Concepts of cardinal points

In the EuroLinguistic theory formation since 1999, the year of the foundation of ELAMA, a number of new concepts for dealing with divergence and convergence of European languages have been proposed. The term EuroLinguistics itself is a new coinage by Prof. Norbert Reiter at the Freie Universität Berlin, Südost-Europa Institut. He stresses the great similarity and mutual interaction which constitute a huge European "Sprachbund" in the sense of the Prague Linguistic School. In presenting the concept of EuroLinguistics to the audience at "La Sapienza" last year, I also

introduced the ELAMA-Logos and the Pushkin Theses (in English and Italian).

To further elucidate the interaction between European languages: the contrapuntal arrows converging in the centre of the logo symbolize the meeting of multilingual interference, transfer and adaptation processes between the participating languages. These processes are thought to emanate from the languages in the centre to the periphery and vice versa, a subclassification into 'Euro-linguistics North of the Alps' and 'Euro-linguistics South of the Alps'. This line was found to be a necessary line of division for describing the historical development of the languages of Europe, their glottogenesis. We are thus dealing with the tide of cultural and linguistic innovation from the centre to the periphery of European civilization and vice versa.

This was the general division used for the first volume of *Studies in Euro-linguistics* published by Logos Verlag,



Plenary Session at "La Sapienza", Aula Magna, April 12, 2005

Berlin as *Convergence and Divergence in European Languages*, (Ureland (ed). 2003) and then also in the second volume as *Integration of European Language Research* (Ureland (ed). 2005). However, this subclassification into North and South was found to be insufficient, and further denotations like 'Euro-linguistics East' and 'Euro-linguistics

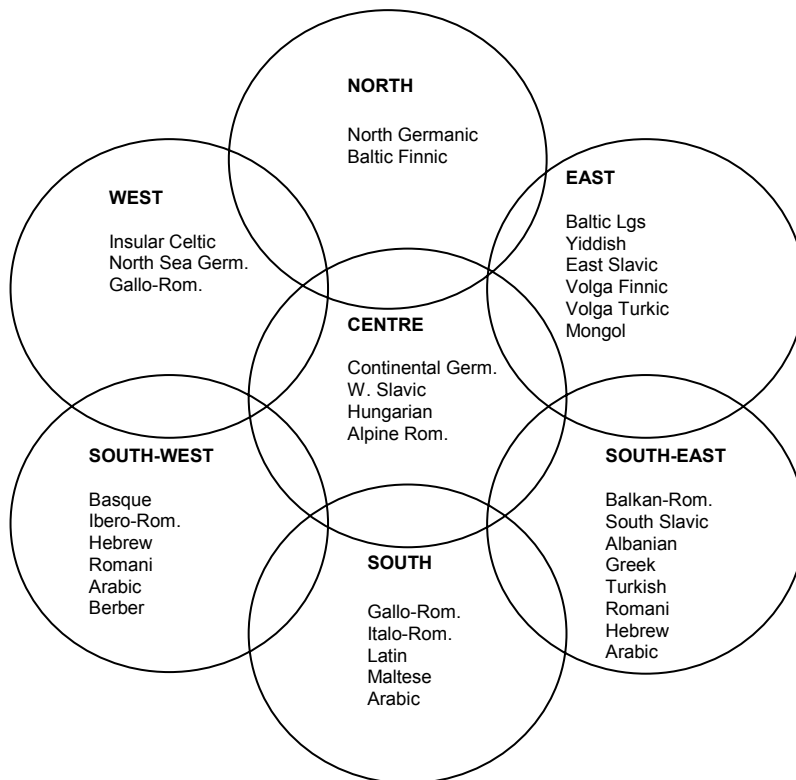
West' had to be added to meet the criterion of geographic adequacy and describe the influence from the centre to the periphery more exactly, so that even the terms 'South East' and 'South West' and 'North East' and 'North West' respectively have been suggested.

In a call-for-papers for the upcoming 6th Euro-linguistics symposium in Uppsala, Sweden, a whole spectrum of such cardinal points are thus indicated within overlapping circles which indicate the major relevant languages in interaction and their overlap with each other (cf. Fig. 1).

This subdivision of the European continent has led to the eight subtitles advertising eight different Euro-linguistics work groups in Uppsala: e.g. "Atlantean Languages", "Baltic Sea languages", "Languages of Eurasia", etc. which will be continued in Berlin in 2006.

It is clear that this whole field of convergence and divergence must be studied within a coherent approach to the European languages in the present and the past. A strict division into synchrony and diachrony is not possible since the multilingual processes of interference, transfer and adaptation have operated in different directions at different intervals. It is the task of Euro-linguistics to break with the national philological approach and view the European languages as products of international processes which are governed to a very large extent by multilingual competence in speakers of European orientation in the present and the past, the discovery

Fig. 1: Representation of overlapping circles for Uppsala, Sept. 2005





of which belongs to the overriding and exciting goals of EuroLinguistics.

Developing EuroLinguistics to a synthesis of linguistic research for the future

Finally, some guidelines will be given here for developing the concept of EuroLinguistics. Like the *Circle Linguistique de Prague* in the 1920s and 1930s,² the symposia organised so far since 1997 in Glienicke (1997)³, Pushkin (1999)⁴, Mannheim/Strasbourg (2001), Zadar (2002)⁵ and St Andrews (2004) should be regarded as initial steps toward a dephilologisation of linguistics by liberating linguistics from narrow national and monolingual perspectives. By emphasising the role of the bilingual or multilingual individual and his language contacts (cf. Pushkin Thesis 1) as being crucial for linguistic change and development, something new has been initiated in linguistics.

In this respect there is a parallel between our undertaking to establish a new Europe-oriented and even global view in linguistics on the one hand, and the Prague Linguistic Circle, on the other. EuroLinguistics would also go beyond the scope of national philologies and their one-sided concern with monolingualism (cf. Thesis 3). It would provide an adequate framework for describing the spread of Europe-wide concepts (lexical and semantic) and structures (phonological, morphological, phraseological and syntactic) in the languages of Europe across the language boundaries, which monolingual descriptions fail to accomplish. EuroLinguistics would be involved with in-depth studies of the whole historical and social scenario which has given rise to the network of similarities (convergence) and dissimilarities (divergence) (cf. Theses 4-6).

Now as in the 1920s there exist some prerequisites for launching a new set of theses for establishing such an overall European and even global orientation. What the Prague linguists tried to do was to find an alternative to his-

torical linguistics and create a new Europe-wide basis for dealing with European languages (cf. e.g. Trubetzkoy's (1923) "Sprachbund"⁶ concept and Savickij's (1921) "Eurasian idea"⁷). Such a large-scale approach to the European languages was the very impetus for the new theory developments in phonology and syntax which underlie "The Magic of a New Language" (cf. the title of Toman 1995)⁸.

Even though we now have a different theoretical starting point from the Prague linguists, I think that the mosaic of language contacts as described north of the Alps in the EuroLinguistic symposia mentioned above is a good beginning for developing EuroLinguistics. Such descriptions of contacts in the north and south must be treated in a Europe-wide scenario. It will suffice for us to claim that this new orientation in linguistics is reminiscent of the European concepts of the Prague School and it is here to stay and will grow to a new paradigm in the 21st century. This claim also means that there is a parallel between the rise of the Linguistic Circle of Prague with its ambition to create "the magic of a new language" and our EuroLinguistic efforts, which will bear fruit in the near future.

Like Prague in the 1920s, Pushkin/St. Petersburg in 1999 was in the middle of a political and social upheaval, where new hierarchies and social groups change the established forms of thinking. In chaos there is always the chance of a new birth. One of the main reasons for bringing the symposium to Pushkin was the opportunity of a free discussion and of contacts between east and west.

As pointed out, the Glienicke and Pushkin Symposia were the second step toward an overall view of languages and cultures in Europe, which has been continued with further symposia held in Mannheim/Strasbourg, Zadar and St Andrews and the foundation of the *EuroLinguistic Association of Mannheim (ELAMA)* in 1999.

A third step in developing the EuroLinguistic endeavor would be to found a Europe-wide EuroLinguistic Association (ELA).

The fourth and next step would be to start a Europe-wide research project which would be differently oriented than

the EURO-Typ Project of the 1990s by including historical and contact-linguistic perspectives in a multilingual framework, because the indispensable sociohistorical dimensions are missing in the Euro-Typ.⁹

Another parallel to the CLP comes to mind: not only were the Prague linguists confronted with a political and social breakdown, there was also a general feeling of disillusionment with the prevailing neogrammarian paradigm with its limited scope, its specialisation and lack of synthesis. It had already given its best in the preceding generation. However, in Prague, prominent Czech, Russian, Ukrainian and Polish linguists from different East European universities (Moscow, St. Petersburg, Kazan, Charkov, Warsaw, etc.) had prepared the field for laying the foundation of a new type of linguistics within the newly founded Czechoslovak Republic, which supported such an undertaking, both politically and financially. Russian formalism in phonology, language as a immanent system, functionalism but also areal and ethnological aspects, multilingualism, language cultivation and language policy were areas of interest (cf. the summary of The Ten Prague Theses by Scharnhorst and Ising 1982).¹⁰ This broad spectrum of approaches to language among the East European emigrés was an asset for the international discussion of the framework of The Prague Circle, whose capable organiser and co-ordinator was Vilém Mathesius, a true European.¹¹

Without trying to stretch the parallelism between the overall European efforts of the Prague Linguistic School and our own EuroLinguistic activities in the five EuroLinguistics symposia mentioned above, I think that, like the Prague linguists, we are living in a period which is characterised by the fall of a strong scientific paradigm, the basic principles of which have been demonstrated to be inadequate for encompassing language in all its dimensions. The dissatisfaction of the Prague linguists with the German type of historical linguistics is echoing among the contact-oriented linguists of today in their dissatisfaction with the monolingual generative-transformational synchronic

2 Cf. Jakobson (1928); Mathesius (1936) and Mathesius, Jakobson, Havránek, and Mukařovský (1929); Trnka (1928-1936)

3 Cf. Reiter (ed.) (1999).

4 Cf. Ureland (ed.) 2003

5 Cf. Ureland (ed.) 2005

⁶ Cf. Trubetzkoy (1920); (1923); (1929)

⁷ Cf. Savickij (1921)

⁸ Cf. Toman (1995)

⁹ Cf. Bossong and Comrie (eds.) (1997-2002)

¹⁰ See also the English summary of the Prague Theses in Ureland 2003:2, fn. 1

¹¹ Cf. Mathesius (1936)

theories of Anglo-Saxon origin. If this generalising statement of mine is accepted, we are confronted with the question of how to remedy the present situation in making linguistics again a central discipline in the humanities.¹²

Because of recent trends back to national philologisation in Germany in the wake of cut-backs by philology departments (e.g. in Baden-Württemberg), general linguistics is being dissolved into a multitude of so-called "Bindestrichlinguistiken" (e.g. "Anglistische Linguistik", "Germanistische Linguistik", "Romanistische Linguistik" etc.) which are unable to give a synthesis of the European languages in interaction with each other. Such a synthesis is necessary in the days of the unification of Europe. If the dominance of the national philological orientation is allowed to persist, the youth of New Europe will obtain an incomplete linguistic orientation after the turn of the millennium. The essential goal of the Prague linguists was namely the creation of "a new language" for describing the European languages without national bias and to encompass man's whole *faculté du langage* which must necessarily include his multilingual capacity and his adaptation to language and cultural contacts.

By placing multilingualism and language contact at the centre of research, the six Eurolinguistic symposia have contributed substantially to a Europeanisation, and even a globalisation, of linguistics. The rise of general linguistics as a respectable competitor to historical linguistics in the German tradition after the Second World War was thanks to a dephilologisation of language studies by outstanding scholars in the east and west, to which both the Russian formalists and the Prague School linguists on the one hand, and the American structuralists on the other, contributed in a crucial way. It is my conviction that Eurolinguistics will be another good candidate in the history of linguistics for having improved the dilemma of stagnation and frustration which is so characteristic of language studies today by giving an impetus for a Europeanisation and globalisation of language studies.

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2. In Mannheim: Europawoche 2005 - Besuch aus der Heldenstadt Timișoara, Ausstellung und Vorträge

Bericht von der Veranstaltung des Eurolinguistischen Arbeitskreises ELAMA e.V. zur Europawoche 2005: „Europa in guter Verfassung – Rumänien in der Warteschleife“ (3. und 4. Mai 2005)

Eine Lehrstunde zur Vorgeschichte der Wiedervereinigung des europäischen Kontinents nach dem Fall des Eisernen Vorhangs 1989 brachten die rumänischen Gäste des alljährlichen Treffens der Sprachwissenschaftler vom Eurolinguistischen Arbeitskreis (ELAMA) um Professor Sture Ureland (Uni Mannheim) zur Europawoche mit nach Mannheim. Nach Fachvorträgen und Diskussionen zur kulturellen Koexistenz der Volksgruppen in der Banat-Metropole Timișoara, die unter den Namen Temesvár und Temeschburg auch auf eine reichhaltige ungarische und deutsche Tradition verweisen kann, erinnerten mit angereiste Veteranen des Volksaufstands gegen die Ceaușescu-Diktatur mit einer Fotoausstellung an das Martyrium, den Blutzoll,



Dr Traian Orban, showing pictures of the 1989 uprising against the Ceaușesco Regime



The EU-flag in the hands of Europabüro-Director Peter Simon, Stadtrat Dr Gerhard Schäffner and ELAMA Chairman, P. Sture Ureland.

den die Temesvárer für die Wiederauf-
ersterung des geeinten Europas zu
entrichten hatten. Gedenkstättenleiter
Dr. Traian Orban, der die Massaker der
Geheimpolizei-Truppen 1989 schwer-
verletzt überlebt hatte, zeigte sich be-
sonders beglückt, dass die Volksgrup-
pen in ihrem gemeinsamen Kampf ge-
gen die Diktatur zusammenstanden.
„Rumänien möchte nicht gesenkten
Hauptes nach Europa zurückkehren“,
schloß er seinen bewegendem Vortrag.

Stadtrechtsdirektor Peter Simon vom
Europabüro der Stadt Mannheim wech-
selte in seiner Grußadresse für in die
große Politik: selbstverständlich werde
die Europäische Union dem bisher
ärmsten Beitrittskandidaten solidarisch
zur Seite stehen, bis zum Vollzug des
Beitritts seien allerdings in Rumänien
noch rechtsstaatliche Hausaufgaben zu
lösen und die Korruption zu bekämpfen,
die ein schlimmes Gift für die Demokra-
tie sei.

In einer spontanen Ansprache führte
der anwesende Stadtrat Dr. Gerhard
Schäffner auf das eigentliche Sprach-
thema zurück. Er hieß die ausländi-
schen Gäste willkommen in der „Sprach-
stadt“ Mannheim, die nicht nur
heutzutage die wichtigsten Einrichtun-
gen zur Erforschung und Standardisie-
rung der deutschen Sprache beherber-
ge, sondern auch die multikulturelle
Sprachenvielfalt zu ihrem Gründungs-
mythos zähle: „Nach den Glaubens-
kriegen riefen die rheinpfälzischen Kur-
fürsten in vier Sprachen rechtschaffene
Menschen aus ganz Europa („les gens
de bien de toutes sortes de nations“)
auf, in Mannheim einen Hort der Glau-
bens- und Gewerbefreiheit zu errich-
ten.“ Jenseits von Wissenschaft und
Politik entscheide sich die Durchset-

zung der Europa-Idee aber
auch in der unmittelbaren Er-
fahrungswelt der gewöhnlichen
Menschen vor Ort. Des-
halb begrüße er nachdrücklich
Mikroprojekte wie die „Aktion
Sprachbegegnung“, die von
der Bürgerinitiative in der mul-
tikulturellen Mannheimer Neckarstadt
Menschen unterschiedlicher
Herkunft zum Austausch über das
Thema eigene/fremde Sprache zu-
sammenbringen möchte, teilte
der Kommunalpolitiker dem
Mannheimer Morgen mit.

An der Universität Mann-
heim wurden zwei sprachwis-
senschaftliche Vorträge durch

ELAMA und das Romanische Seminar
zum Thema Sprachminderheiten in
Rumänien (Psychologin Doina Ifrim)
und die gegenwärtige Situation der
Roma (Dr Laetitia Mark) angeboten.
Auch eine kleine Kunstausstellung zum
Thema „Barocke Architektur im Banat“
von Lia Popescu war zu besichtigen,
wonach eine Demonstration von rumä-
nischen Volksinstrumenten von Prof.
Ovidiu Papană folgte.

Die Feier der Europawoche 2005 in
Mannheim wurde durch Mittel der Phi-
losophischen Fakultät, des Romani-
schen Seminars und des ELAMA sowie
die organisatorische Mitarbeit des Ö-
kumenischen Bildungszentrums *sancti-
lara* ermöglicht.

Gerhard Schäffner

3. In Uppsala: Eurolingu- istic activities at the 6th Eu- rolinguistic Symposium in Uppsala, Sweden 2005

A cooperation between ELAMA,
Uppsala University, Humboldt Univer-
sität/Berlin and La Sapienza/Rome

The 6th EuroLinguistic Symposium on
*Migration of European languages and
cultures – from the Russian rivers to the
North Atlantic* took place between Sep-
tember 16-18, 2005 at the University of
Uppsala, Sweden. The university was
founded in 1477 and is known as the
largest and most important university in
Sweden. With its many cafés, parks
and cyclists, Uppsala is a picturesque
university town with a unique atmos-
phere. Uppsala is Sweden's fourth larg-
est city, but it is small enough to be an
ideal location for a conference of this
kind.

In an opening round-table discussion
on the first evening, in which most of
the participating ELAMA members took
part, it was decided that Prof. Sture
Ureland, hitherto acting chairman of
ELAMA, would act as provisional
chairman of a new Europe-wide Euro-
linguistic Association (*EuroLinguis-
tica.org*), for a period of two years, until
the new association has constituted it-
self with statutes and elected members
of a management committee.

The Europe-wide scope is the rea-
son for a change of name from the lo-
cally restricted ELAMA (*EuroLin-
guistischer Arbeitskreis Mannheim*) to a



*The main building of the University of Uppsala from
the 19th century*



Participants of the Italian group from Rome, Teramo and Molise in front of the Uppsala Arkivcentrum in Sept. 2005

much broader denotation (Eurolinguistic Association/ELA). This new title is intended to provide for a multifaceted organisation comprising several European subsections, e.g. Eurolinguistics North, South, East, West and Centre. It is a roof under which these sections share the common aims and guidelines formulated in the *Pushkin Theses*.

After this discussion, the main programme of lectures and presentations was started by Prof. Harald Runblom, member of the board of regents of the *Baltic University Programme (BUP)*, who presented this network of some 180 universities and institutions of higher education in the Baltic Sea Region (BSR). This cooperation was initiated in 1991 to promote environmental, economic, cultural and democratic development in 14 different countries belonging to the Baltic Sea drainage area.

After these organisational and geographic discussions on the first evening, Friday morning saw the official opening ceremony of the two-day symposium with a full schedule of plenary lectures and parallel sessions (35 papers in all). As in the earlier symposia, the participants of this conference came from different countries all over Europe and spoke about a wide range of topics focusing on various European regions. They were greeted by Prof. Sture Ureland, initiator and main organiser of this year's Eurolinguistic symposium. He was followed by Prof. Svante Strandberg, Director of the Institute of Nordic Place Names, and Dr Eva Brylla, Institute of Dialectology and Folklore (SOFI), who were our Swedish hosts in

Uppsala. They both presented the historical background and present-day activities of their institutes, which are located in the Uppsala Arkivcentrum, the university building where this 6th Symposium took place.

After the two inaugural lectures, the members of the symposium went for an early lunch to the café of the University Library, *Carolina Rediviva*. In this library, they could have a look at the famous Gothic 4th century bible, *Codex Argenteus* ("The Silver Bible"), the history of which was introduced during lunch by Rune Palm (Univ. of Stockholm).

Two more plenary lectures were held early Friday afternoon: Bob Quinn from Ireland explained his view of the "Dynamic moat round Europe," and Dr Rune Palm spoke about "Language contact in the Viking Age." After this, the listeners had to choose between the two different sessions of Eurolinguistics West and Eurolinguistics Centre, lectures which had to be separated due to the large number of speakers. So, while Dr Martina Müller (Univ. of Mannheim) gave her description of "The Celtic, Regional and Minority Languages Abroad Project," one of seven Europe-wide projects funded by the European Commission promoting lan-

guage learning and linguistic diversity; Prof. Ludger Kremer

(Antwerp) discussed "Neuzeitliche Migration und niederländisch-(nieder)deutscher Sprachkontakt im Nord- und Ostseegebiet." Prof. Vincenzo Merolle (ELAMA's partner at La Sapienza, Rome) presented convincing arguments in his lecture on the necessity of a general comparative European dictionary: "The difficulties and reasons for compiling a European dictionary." Other lectures in a mixed order of Eurolinguistics West, Centre, North and South on Friday afternoon included topics like "The influence of Norse on the Orkney Island dialect" (Dr Thomas Rendall, Orkney), "Evidence of Yiddish documented in European societies (EYDES)" (Dr Ulrike Kiefer/Robert Neumann, Lampertheim) and Dr John Stewart's survey of "The state of the art of the research on Swedish/Scandinavian languages and peoples in North America," which was more a paper on Global Eurolinguistics. Then, two papers by Italian guests were presented: Alessandra Serra "Hot Spots: Encoding English in Italian advertising," and finally Prof. Cristiana Pugliese (Univ. of Molise) "Language Minorities in the Molise region, Italy."

Plenary lectures continued on Satur-



Rune Palm, Univ. Doc., interpreting runes in Uppsala Univ. Park



Members of the symposium at Old Uppsala

day morning with Eurolinguistics East, North and Centre with Prof. Jurij Kusmenko (Humboldt Univ., Berlin) speaking about "The Scandinavian Languages between the Finno-Ugric Northeast and West Germanic Southwest." This was followed by Prof. Eva Czato (Univ. of Uppsala), who lectured about "Migrations of Turkic-speaking groups into Europe." After a short break, Dr Peter Wagener continued with his illustrative introduction to *Geprochenes Deutsch* at Deutsches Spracharchiv, IdS, Mannheim, which is a collection of spoken material from E. Zwirner's corpus and other corpora now available to a large extent on the Internet: "Migrationen im Spiegel des Deutschen Spracharchivs." The plenary lectures of the day ended with Prof. Giuseppe Castorina (Univ. of Rome, head of Eurolinguistica Sud), who gave a paper about "Interpreting convergence and diversity questions" in connection with Manuela Cipri (Univ. of Rome) who presented her paper on "Simboli di unita e di europita."

In the afternoon, different parallel lectures were held in the sessions of Eurolinguistics North, East, South and South-East. In the first of these sessions, the lecturers were Dr Michael Rieler (Univ. of Leipzig) dealing with "Contact-induced language change and the structure of noun phrases in Germanic languages" and Dr Eric De Geer (Univ. of Uppsala), who presented a paper on Eurolinguistics North: "Where do Finnish speakers in Sweden live – a geographical and statistical problem." The only speaker on behalf of Eurolinguistics East this time was Dr Olga Voronkova, Univ. of Heidelberg, who gave a presentation on language death in Baltic languages: "Sprachtod im Balti-

kum." The session of Eurolinguistics South-East in the afternoon started off with Magdalena Cvetkovic (Univ. of Mannheim) giving her account of the migration of Serbs in the past and the present, followed by Ivanka Steber (Univ. of Mannheim) reporting on her fieldwork in Romania: "Zugewanderte

Sprachminderheiten im rumanischen Banat."

Dr Lelija Socanac (Linguistic Institute, Zagreb) concluded this section with some interesting details of her project about "Migration of the Croats to Burgenland, Austria – an ethnolinguistic study."

The largest session of this year's symposium comprised Eurolinguistics Sud. Most of the speakers from this group spoke in the first of the two parallel sessions on Saturday afternoon: Prof. Francesca Rosati (Univ. of Teramo), "English in Europe"; Francesca Vaccarelli (Univ. of Rome), "English in Italy" and Francesca D'Alfonso (Univ. of Teramo) "The case of economics and finances in the Italian lexicon," to name but a few. The official part of the second day of the conference was concluded by Giovanni Agresti (Univ. of Teramo) and his colleagues presenting the new *International Center for the Documentation of European Regional Languages (CILTRE)*.

Saturday evening finally saw a gathering in the lecture hall of Akademihotellet, the informal meeting place during breaks and in the evenings, and also the place where a large number of the participants was accommodated during the symposium. Those who were interested were invited to listen to Prof. Henrik Williams' short orientation to the "Samnordisk runtextdatabas," a computerized corpus of runic inscriptions available at the Nordic Seminar of Uppsala University. He gave several concrete examples on how to access the runic corpus via the Internet.

This presentation was followed after a buffet by the viewing of Bob Quinn's

film *Navigatio*, ELAMA's cult film. The highlight of the evening was the introduction to the film by the producer and director Bob Quinn himself, who confessed that he had not seen the film since its completion some years ago. His film demonstrates the similarities between a traditional type of Irish song and the singing in regions as far east as Tatarstan on the Volga River in Russia. According to Quinn, these similarities in singing and other parallel cultural phenomena are not accidental, but are evidence of early historical contacts between peoples in the British Isles, Scandinavia and Eastern Europe (Tatarstan) via migrating Vikings – contacts which may also have played an important role in the parallel development of language, music and art: cultural convergence!

Sunday was a less formal but nevertheless a most interesting day in Uppsala, which took the participants way back into the Viking Age. The historical excursion started in the morning with a very professional and at the same time very entertaining guided tour through the University Park by runologist Rune Palm, who explained the runic inscriptions on ancient runestones in this park. The day continued with an excursion to Old Uppsala (*Gamla Uppsala*), located 5 km outside today's modern city. Old Uppsala was once the religious and political centre of the Svea kingdom, and it was here where the ancient Swedish kings were buried in large barrows. After a short walk in the cold wind around these hills and a visit to the adjacent museum, a delightful lunch was served at The Odinsborg Restaurant, a large but nevertheless cosy restaurant serving delicious Swedish food.

After this encounter with Swedish cooking, the group returned to Uppsala to visit Uppsala Cathedral. Construction began on this gothic cathedral around 1270; Swedish kings were crowned and other famous Swedes buried here.

Finally, Sunday evening saw another informal gathering over a supper buffet in Akademihotellet, just the right place to establish new contacts and to reinforce old ones.

This was the end of another most interesting ELAMA-symposium, which will once more result in a further publication.¹ A 7th Eurolinguistics Symposium

¹ Cf. forthcoming volume in *Studies in Eurolinguistics*.

is being planned for 2006 at Humboldt Universität Berlin, where Eurolinguistics East and Eurolinguistics Centre will be in the focus.

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4. In Vilnius: Report on The International Conference on Language and Didactics at the Vilnius Pedagogical University, Nov. 2005

This conference was opened by the Dean of the Faculty of Foreign Languages, Prof. Algimantas Martinkėnas, who welcomed the 49 participants from 16 different countries.

The series of plenary papers was then inaugurated by Prof. Mindaugas Briedis, Ministry of Education, Vilnius, who spoke about "The key competencies of the teacher in contemporary schools," after which Prof. Peter Colliander, Univ. of Copenhagen, presented a paper on the present crisis in the teaching of German at the Danish universities due to the decline in the number of students who choose German as a foreign language. This decline belongs to a general tendency of decreasing recruitment of students for German studies in most Western European universities and schools since the 1990s: in Sweden, France, Great Britain, etc.

To overcome this crisis he recommended a revision of teaching goals among responsible experts and educators and emphasized a new focus of future research and teaching, whereby

the great goal of a general education must not be lost, but also the practical training of students for a future career must become more and more important in preparing them for new tasks, such as those of translators, interpreters, multilingual managers, international officials, etc. Such students in the future will need more training in mastering technical terminology and specific vocational languages (the so-called "Fachsprachen"). Such specialisation, plus the broader understanding of the role of German studies in a Europe-wide framework – *Eurodeutsch* – will be more important than the classical training in literary excellence in analyzing the works of Goethe and Schiller and other masters of German literature, which still dominates the curricula of most German departments.

The third key lecture was held by Prof. Sture Ureland, Univ. of Mannheim, who gave a presentation on the "The rise, goals and scope of Eurolinguistics." He sketched the historical background of this new discipline by drawing a parallel between the programme of research on European languages pursued by the Linguistic Circle of Prague in the 1920s and 1930s and that of the Eurolinguistic Circle of Mannheim (ELAMA). Furthermore, he presented the whole spectrum of activities (Euro-linguistic conferences, workshops, European Weeks, exchange of scholars and last but not least publications). He encouraged the listeners to visit the home page of ELAMA (www.elama.de) and read the three volumes published in the series "Studies in Eurolinguistics," from Logos Verlag Berlin. A recent "Eurolinguistics Newsletter" published in April 2005 on ELAMA's homepage was also introduced.

On the second day (Friday) and in parallel sessions a number of methodological papers were presented to the audience: "The use of Internet resources in developing the four communicative skills"; "National and international on-line projects";

"Learner autonomy as a socio-cultural



The restored façade of the Church of St Anna, Vilnius, 17th cent.

issue"; "Internationalisation at home"; "Impact of international Mentor Projects on MFL Mentoring," etc.

Two major workshops were also held on the second day (Friday):

Deutsch: Linguistik und Didaktik which was chaired by the initiator of the linguistic part of the workshop, Dr Ernesta Račienė, Univ. of Vilnius and

Section du Français: Enseigner autrement chaired by Dr. Rasa Matonienė.

The second paper of the German workshop was delivered by Prof. Wilhelm Schellenberg, Univ. of Erfurt, who discussed the perception of pictures and their role in written texts from the viewpoint of semiotics, text linguistics and cognition by using illustrative examples from pictures in Thomas Mann's works.

The third paper of the German workshop was a more formal-linguistic approach to the German language presented by Prof. Martine Dalmas, Univ. of Paris IV, Sorbonne, who gave two illustrative examples of the movement of syntactic elements in German which cause considerable difficulties for non-native German speakers in interpreting discontinuous morphemes in verbal constructions with prepositional prefixes: e.g. *er reiste... ab* or in phrasal constructions like e.g. *er nahm... zur Kenntnis*, where a movement to the right of the prepositional phrase by the



Members of the work-group: "Deutsche Linguistik und Didaktik" in Vilnius, Nov. 2005



main verb also causes problems of interpretation.

As the fourth paper in the German workshop, Dr Olga Voronkova, Univ. of Heidelberg/Mannheim, then discussed "The German linguistic islands in Russia," their rise and fall due to migration, remigration and persecution from the 17th to the 20th century. After the conquest of the Turkish-dominated areas of southern Russia and the opening up of these fertile areas (the steppe) for agriculture and immigration, the German language was used as a language of communication for hundreds of years among numerous German settlers in the Ukraine, Trans-Caucasia and the Volga Bend. This penetration was due to organized migration of German farmers and artisans. However, these had been preceded by earlier German-speaking persons in the 15th and 16th centuries, such as traders, merchants, adventurers, soldiers in captivity and artisans who had found their way to the east and who populated distinct German ghettos in the major cities of Russia (Pskov, Novgorod, Smolensk, Kiev and Moscow), bringing with them innovations and imported artifacts, the naming of which was incorporated and phonologically adapted into the Russian city dialects, cf. e.g. Russ. *spigl* 'mirror,' *stulia* 'chair,' *stifl* 'boot,' *šneidr* 'tailor' etc., denotations which today are experienced by Russian-speakers as belonging to the

MIGRATION, CONTACT AND LINGUISTIC AREAS

Euro-Atlantean and Euro-Asian Aspects

7th International Symposium of EuroLinguistics

Oct. 5-8, 2006

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basic vocabulary of Russian.

Then Dr. Klaus Bresser, Recklinghausen, oriented the listeners on the value of a general education as an investment factor for reaching a high standard of living, which also makes language studies valuable both in the private sector and at the state level. Profitability cannot always be measured in terms of costs when it comes to learning/teaching foreign languages. Thus the 3-language-programme recommended by the EU as an educational goal for the future language learners of Europe is by no means an unrealistic goal in the days of an unlimited spread of English as the single foreign language. Such monolingual monopoly is not in agreement with the diversity of communication in the EU-states. He also showed with statistical evidence from the Internet that German, with its 24 % in 2005, is still used in the EU member states as an official foreign language, whereas English and French are used with a prevalence of only 16 % each. The EU is supporting the spread of the knowledge of foreign languages with its Erasmus, Socrates and Leonardo da Vinci Programmes, which is an indication that the goal of the EU is not a Europe of monolingual communication but a diversity of foreign languages. Dr. Bresser also polemicized against the opinion of monolingualism found in the quotation from Wittgenstein: "Die Grenzen meiner Sprache sind die Grenzen meiner Welt," which is contradicted by the expansion of such a

"Weltbild" through learning foreign languages, which opens up our view of the multilingual European continent with its diverse cultures and values.

Besides this rich programme of papers there was also a sight-seeing tour of Vilnius' Old Town, which has been thoroughly renovated during the past ten years thanks to UNESCO-funding, making it one of the most valuable memorials of European architecture.

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N.B. Reminder

The deadline for sending in contributions for the Uppsala proceedings has been extended to March 1, 2006

EuroLinguistic Publications

Müller, Martina (2003): *Sprachkontakt und Sprachwandel auf der Insel Skye (Schottland)*. In: *Studies in EuroLinguistics*. Vol. 3. Berlin: Logos.

Ureland, P. Sture (ed.) (2003): *Convergence and Divergence in European languages*. In: *Studies in EuroLinguistics*. Vol. 1. Berlin: Logos Verlag.

Ureland, P. Sture (ed.) (2005): *Integration of European language research*. In: *Studies in EuroLinguistics*. Vol. 2. Berlin: Logos Verlag.

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