



International Federation of Language Teacher Associations
Fédération Internationale des Professeurs de Langues Vivantes

Sheffield, 21st October 2017

Dear friends and colleagues,

FIPLV News Update October 2017

I hope that the new academic year got off to a good start for those of you for whom it begins in September. Of course the FIPLV family is located all around the world so our rhythms will vary as do our seasons and festivals.

Although I am still reluctant to call this missive a 'newsletter' as this might raise expectations with regard to format, layout etc, this time I am trying something different. I am so grateful to all of the members who sent me contributions to the 'newsletter', as this provides us with another opportunity to share information from around the world that may also be of interest to our individual members. If it is possible, please could you share this newsletter via your website, twitter, facebook or any other means. You can also remind them to visit the FIPLV website (fiplv.com) as well as our Twitter (@fiplv) and Facebook accounts, as those also offer opportunities to individuals to benefit from the work of others in different contexts, as well as to share their own ideas and find potential partners. We have been told that it is encouraging for teachers to know that the same issues are shared by others in other countries, as well as to know that they are part of a wider global community with close links to UNESCO and the Council of Europe.

I am delighted to say that this year seven colleagues from around the world were awarded the FIPLV International Award 2016 by FIPLV and its World Council. Full details and photographs will soon appear on the FIPLV website soon and we will announce their names in the next newsletter, as not all of them have been presented yet. It is true to say that the wealth of expertise, commitment and collegiality represented in the nominations was remarkable and FIPLV is proud to offer some international recognition of the contributions of the awardees to the languages world. Nominations for the 2017 award will be invited at the end of the year.

I am also very pleased to announce that we have two new FIPLV members: ELTA Serbia (<https://elta.org.rs/about/>) and the NZALT, the New Zealand Association of Language Teachers (<http://www.nzalt.org.nz>). I am sure we will be hearing much more about them in the future, but for now I would recommend you take a look at their websites to see what they offer. You will also find information about their forthcoming conferences. Welcome to FIPLV to you both! We are also in negotiation with other associations who wish to become members of our growing family, so watch this space!

We continue to be actively involved as NGOs with the Council of Europe and UNESCO, whilst also building our collaborations with the European Union. At the European Centre for Modern Languages of the Council of Europe (ECML) Judith Richters, our Vice President, is now representing FIPLV as an associate partner in a think tank that

focuses on the language of schooling (<http://www.ecml.at/ECML-Programme/Thinktanks/tabid/1913/language/en-GB/Default.aspx>). The *Supporting Multilingual Classrooms* consultancy, which I am coordinating with Brigitte Gerber from the University of Geneva, has been extended once more and we had our meeting with the national coordinators of the eight countries where we will this year. Last year these took place in Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Latvia, Malta, and Slovenia. The work is funded jointly by the ECML of the Council of Europe and the European Commission and involves tailor-made workshops in European countries who have applied for such support. You can download a flyer for this activity here: <http://www.ecml.at/Portals/1/documents/ECML-flyer/flyer-multilingual-classrooms-EN.pdf?ver=2017-10-12-124117-217>. For further information on the activities of ECML, please take a look at the latest issue of the European Languages Gazette: <http://www.ecml.at/Resources/Newsletter/Gazette38/tabid/2981/Default.aspx>.

Other involvement with the European Union includes our membership of the European Civil Society Platform for Multilingualism (ECSPM), a major new alliance which will provide policy briefings with which to advise the European Commission and EU Member States. Please take a look at the website of ECSPM: <http://ecspm.org>. You will see that FIPLV is involved as an active member of ECSPM and our precise role will be discussed in a meeting in December. Another EC- funded activity is the MIME project (Mobility and Inclusion in Multilingual Europe), which has produced a highly informative website. The Stakeholder page of the MIME project website: http://mime-project.org/stakeholder_forum/ has now been updated to include a summary of the third Stakeholder Forum meeting, which FIPLV was unable to attend this year because attendance could not be funded by the project.

There have been some very successful events organised by our members this year and this newsletter shares news on some of them, as well as on some forthcoming events. As for FIPLV events - which of course can only run when one of our member associations agrees to take a lead locally – June saw the launch of the new FIPLV East European Region in a very successful conference held in the Bulgarian city of Varna on the beautiful Black Sea coast. You will find a report on the conference and links to many photos in the May-June E-Newsletter of BETA, the Bulgarian English Teachers' Association, our member association who organised the event. We were delighted that people came from 35 countries across six continents for this truly international conference. Enormous thanks go to the organisers from BETA as well as to our member associations IDV and MAPRYAL for supporting the development of impressive German and Russian strands. Prior to the event we were also able to organise the FIPLV Executive Committee and World Council meetings there. You will find the e-newsletter at the following url and this also includes a report on a conference organised by one of our new members, ELTA Serbia: http://www.beta-iatefl.org/cogitoergosum/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/BETA_E-Newsletter_May_June_2017.pdf

Please find attached our FIPLV logo, which we would be pleased to see on your webpages in recognition of your affiliation to the Federation if you don't already have it there. It would also be excellent if you could provide a link to <https://fiplv.com>. Please check that you refer to your membership of our worldwide community in appropriate places. I know that most of you do, but things can get lost when websites are updated.

Before moving to news from different member associations, I would like to ask you to make a note of the two major conferences of FIPLV taking place next year. The first is the FIPLV Nordic-Baltic Region (NBR) Conference 2018 "Teaching and Learning

Languages in the 21st Century: Linguistic, Educational and Cultural Aspects”, which will take place in the beautiful city of Vilnius in Lithuania 7-8 June 2018. We are extremely grateful to the Language Teachers’ Association of Lithuania (LKPA) who is organising this conference in collaboration with Institute of Foreign Languages of Vilnius University. Having been to Lithuanian language teacher conferences before, I know you are in for a treat. We will keep you updated but you may wish to bookmark the site:

<http://www.lkpa.vdu.lt/category/conferences/>. You will also find further information on the conference, as well as the activities of a number of our FIPLV members in the Nordic-Baltic Region, in the NBR e-newsletter, excellently edited by NBR President Sigurborg Jónsdóttir from Iceland and NBR Secretary Eglė Šleimaitienė from Lithuania: <https://fiplv.com/members-2/fiplv-regions/the-nordic-baltic-region/newsletter-2-2017-nordic-baltic-region/>

The second major event will be the FIPLV World Congress, which this time is being organised as part of the ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo to take place in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, 15-18 November 2018. We are delighted to be working this time with the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages on what promises to be a wonderful event. Further information will be available later this year following the 2017 convention in Nashville, but you may wish to keep your eye on the ACTFL website: <https://www.actfl.org/convention-expo/future-conventions>.

I would like to thank you, as always, on behalf of FIPLV for your enormous commitment to the languages community and your support for language learning, teaching and research. I hope you enjoy reading the following contributions from our members.

With warmest regards

Terry

Professor Terry LAMB PhD
FIPLV Secretary General



News from ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages)

ACTFL CONVENTION

KEYNOTE SPEAKER BILL WEIR: THE TLE INTERVIEW

If you're on the fence about attending [#ACTFL17](#) this year, grab a cup of coffee, find a chair, and [read the TLE interview](#) with keynote speaker and renowned journalist **Bill Weir**:

"I once worked in a newsroom where someone pinned up a quote from Humphrey Bogart's character in *Deadline U.S.A.*: 'If you can write, there is hope for you,' it read. 'If you can't, find the door.' To modernize that sentiment, if you can write and report, you'll never go hungry and if you can write and report in multiple languages, you'll eat well."

"It's hard to overstate the premium placed on an American journalist proficient in another language in these globalized, complicated times and I'm sure the same applies to those in finance or fashion. But as a reporter, a multilingual mind can save your life in a hot spot or maybe even help uncover a story that changes the world."

The [Annual Convention & World Languages Expo](#) will be held Nov. 17-19 in Nashville. Don't forget to [register](#) and [make your hotel reservations](#).

REGISTER NOW

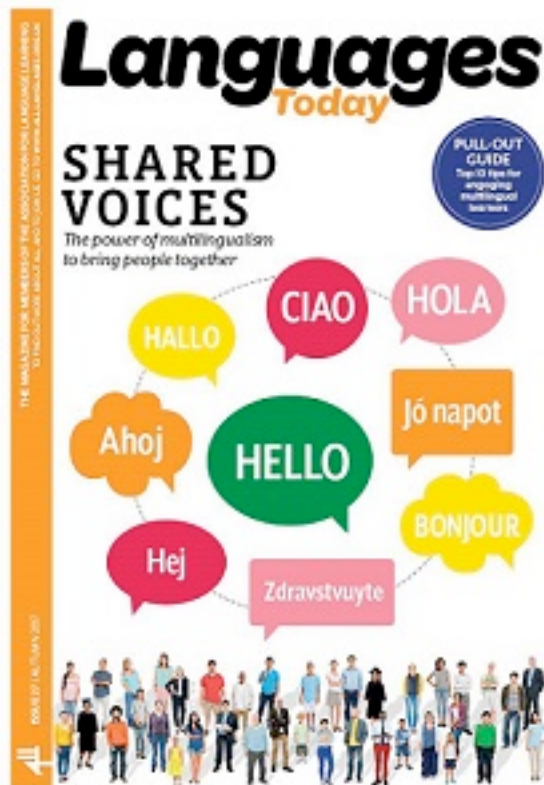
Further information is available here: <https://www.actfl.org/convention-expo>

News from ALL (Association for Language Learning) in the UK

ALL has been monitoring a variety of developments this year: changes to the UK curriculum and examination system affect Languages quite radically, school funding has had adverse effects on specialist Language teachers in some Primary schools, and the provision of less widely taught Languages higher up the system, and there is concern about Language teacher supply, particularly in the context of the decision to leave the European Union.

The Association continues to support its members, and the wider Language teaching community, and to promote Languages and Intercultural experiences wherever it can. Recently the European Day of Languages writing competition (arranged by the North-East Branch of the Association) was opened up to the whole country on the theme 'I have a dream ..' with the aim of reminding schools of the important connections between language, society and aspiration.

International readers will be interested to learn that the **Languages Today** magazine is now available to you!



<https://www.all-languages.org.uk/product/languages-today-online-annual-e-subscription/>

Within the Association plans are advancing for the annual Language World Conference.



Language World will see the launch of the Erasmus+ project THE LANGUAGE MAGICIAN which will be available widely! ALL is an enthusiastic partner in this Project!

There is an introductory video on the ALL website <https://www.all-languages.org.uk/project/the-language-magician/>

The website has recently been extensively reworked, with the following new home page tabs on www.ALL-Languages.org.uk to help guide users more easily before they delve a little deeper into the collections on our website: Student / Primary / Secondary / Research and practice.

Student

Under this tab we have created a page called [Starting Out](#), aimed at Newly Qualified Teachers, and included [resource reviews](#) and [Features](#) which may be of particular relevance. Events, festivals and dates in the calendar are listed in a [Student Events](#) page.

The [Barry Jones Archive](#) now has greater prominence now in this section of the website too

Primary and Secondary

As well as a [Resources](#) page there are three specific areas: for the primary languages teacher, the Languages Co-ordinator, the primary headteacher and the secondary teacher which relate to advice and [guidance](#).

These resources are complemented by the Association's ALL Connect blog and wikis, as well as the FLAME website which is focused on CLIL.

Research and Practice

ALL has just launched its [Learning from the Classroom](#) collection, which we hope will encourage research students and practising teachers to contribute, along with new collections under the [Language Matters](#) tab. These are [Features](#), [Practitioner Focus](#), [How to....](#), and [My Best Ten Ideas](#).

You can also read about how ALL's Council has revitalised its way of working here: <https://www.all-languages.org.uk/news/council-mobilising-201718andbeyond/>

Report about the 1st International Conference of the Slovene Association of LSP Teachers

In 2017 the Slovene Association of LSP teachers celebrated the 20th anniversary of its existence. To commemorate the anniversary, the Association organised its first international conference, titled »Languages for Specific Purposes: Opportunities and Challenges of Teaching and Research«. The conference was held from 18 to 20 May 2017 in Rimske Toplice, Slovenia.

The three-day event attracted 149 participants from 24 countries (Algeria, Austria, The Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Croatia, Italy, Israel, The South African Republic, Lebanon, Hungary, Germany, Poland, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovenia, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia and the USA). The conference programme featured four keynote talks and 90 parallel paper presentations, all of which focused on a variety of topics from the field of research, teaching and learning Languages for Specific Purposes.

Keynote talks were given by:

- *Paolo E. Balboni, University of Venice, »LSP, Microlanguage, CLIL. Three different notions, three different ways, one single objective: the learner's scientific and social needs«*
- *Claus Gnutzmann, University of Braunschweig, »'Publish in English or Perish in German?' Crossing languages and disciplines in scientific writing«*
- *Maggie Charles, Oxford University Language Centre, »Teaching LSP with Corpora: Opportunities and challenges«*
- *Simon Borg, University of Leeds, UK, and Bergen University College, Norway, »12 40 Tips for Doing Action Research«*

Besides offering enlightening and engaging talks, paper presentations and discussions, the conference also provided an opportunity for networking and relaxed socialising. Two special social events organised in the framework of the conference were the conference dinner in Rimske Toplice Thermal Resort and the excursion to Ljubljana, the capital city of Slovenia. The conference dinner was a particular highlight, offering culinary specialties in the beautiful scenery of the hotel's terrace.

Conference speakers have been invited to submit their papers for publication in Scripta Manent (the peer-reviewed journal of SDUTSJ) or Inter alia (the peer-reviewed conference proceedings of SDUTSJ). The deadline for paper submission is 30 September, 2017.

More information on the conference is available at:

<http://www.sdutsj.edus.si/englishconference2017.html>

Photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/29372769@N00/sets/72157684683801086>

Saša Podgoršek

President of the Slovene Association of LSP Teachers

Die Freiburger Resolution:

News from IDV - Der Internationale Deutschlehrerinnen- und Deutschlehrerverband

IDV held its most recent conference in Fribourg/Freiburg, Switzerland, 31 July – 4 August 2017. An outcome of this event was the agreement and publishing of the Freiburger Resolution, an 11-point document aimed at strengthening and developing German as a foreign or second language. This can be found on the IDV website here:

<https://www.idt-2017.ch/index.php/fachprogramm/sprachpolitische-resolution>.

MAPRYAL, the International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature

MAPRYAL celebrated its 50th anniversary in Paris on the 15th September of this year. FIPLV sent them a letter of congratulations and we were represented at the event by our longstanding representative to MAPRYAL, Dr Cecilia Odé, former FIPLV Editor of Publications from The Netherlands. You can find out more about MAPRYAL on their website page: <https://ru.mapryal.org/news/ученых-русистов-мира-приветствовали/> and a report of the 50th anniversary event can be found in Russian here:

<https://ru.mapryal.org/international-association-of-teachers-of-russian-language-and-literature-mapryal/>.

Cecilia has also kindly sent the following report and photographs. Thank you, Cecilia!

Mapryal celebrates its Golden Anniversary, 15 September in Paris, France

On 15 September 2017 Mapryal, the International Association of Teachers of Russian Language and Literature, celebrated its 50th “golden” anniversary in Paris.

Mapryal was founded in 1967 at the Sorbonne University in Paris. Information on Mapryal in Russian and English can be found on the website: <https://ru.mapryal.org/> During the special festive meeting in Paris, hosted by the Russian Embassy in France, and attended by some specialists from all over the world, congratulations by the President of the Russian Federation, V. Putin, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs S. Lavrov, by V. Nikonov (Chairman of Management Board of the Russkiy Mir Foundation) and by representatives of the Russian Government and other official organizations were read.

In the plenary session, presentations were given by Prof.Dr. L.Verbitskaia (President of Mapryal, President of the Russian Academy of Education and President of Saint Petersburg State University) and by specialists in the field of Russian Language and Literature: Prof.Dr. A. Moldavan (Russian Academy of Sciences) and Prof.Dr. H. Walter (University of Greifswald, Member of the Mapryal Presidium).

During the Plenary Session, the Mapryal Pushkin Medal was presented by Vice President of Mapryal, E. Suleimenova, to M. Nagzibekova from the State National University of Tajikistan for her great work in the field of the Russian language and literature in Tajikistan.



E. Suleimenova and M. Nagzibekova

In the session “Russian Abroad”, chaired by T. Mlechko (Moldova), E. Suleimenova (Kazakhstan), Lianna Matevosian (Armenia), L. Kudriavtseva (Ukraine) and Z. Derbisheva (Kirgistan) presented papers on the situation of Russian in their countries.



Eleonora Suleimenova (Vice-President Mapryal, Kazakhstan) and
Tatiana Mlechko (Treasurer of Mapryal, Moldavia), introducing
speakers

After lunch in the Embassy of the Russian Federation, the scientific part of the meeting with Round Table discussions was continued in the Russian Orthodox Spiritual and Cultural Centre in Paris, about the Russian Language, Culture and Literature and about teaching the Language and Literature, chaired by I. Mangus (Estonia), F.CH. Toan (Vietnam), T. Kortova (Moscow), A. Stepanov (Saint Petersburg), D. Davidson (USA), A. Kropotyshev (Director of the Secretariat of Mapryal). Presentations were given by representatives from Estonia, Vietnam, Russian Federation, Romania, USA, Georgia, Finland, Great Britain, Slovakia, Moldova, Germany, Spain, and Italy. Lively discussions with questions, comments and criticism followed the presentations. In the evening all participants were offered a festive dinner.



Members of the Presidium of Mapryal in Paris, 15 September 2017

*Amsterdam, 18 October 2017
Cecilia Odé*

Member of the Presidium of Mapryal, Official Representative of Mapryal at FIPLV

News from EVÕL, the Estonian Foreign Language Teachers Association



ESTONIAN FOREIGN LANGUAGE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION: SEPTEMBER NEWS AND COMING EVENTS

Estonian foreign language teachers have a tradition of organizing autumn conferences. We are making preparations for our 3rd autumn conference which takes place on 24- 25 November in Kohtla-Järve. Apart from that we have hosted international conferences. This autumn we hosted CertiLingua network annual conference on 21- 22 September in Tallinn

CertiLingua Annual Conference in Tallinn

Estonia hosted the 10th CertLingua network annual conference in Tallinn at the hotel Euroopa on 21- 22 September. CertiLingua schools are in Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany (12 regions), Italy, Russia (the region Perm), Sweden. This time 53 CertiLingua programme coordinators and language teachers took part in the annual conference.



The CertiLingua Label of Excellence was initiated by North Rhine-Westphalia and the Netherlands, developed further with European partner countries and tested in a two year pilot phase, from 1st August 2007 till 31st July 2009. The first candidates were awarded the label in summer 2008. The excellence label is awarded to pupils in addition to their university entrance diplomas on the condition that they have written and oral command of at least two foreign languages on level B2 of the Common European Framework for Languages, that they have successfully used at least one of these languages as their learning and working language in one or more CLIL courses, and that they have given evidence of their knowledge about Europe and their intercultural ability to act by their participation in a European / international cooperation project. Meanwhile more than 300 schools throughout Europe are participating at CertiLingua, and more than 800 certificates have been awarded.



The Annual Conference is convened and conducted by the International Steering Group. The International Steering Group consists of: Dr. Beatrice Schmitz, chairwoman, North Rhine-Westphalia; Belinda Steinhuber; Austria, Ruth de Sy, Belgium (German-speaking community); Carine Chancelade, France; Gisella Langé, Italy; Prof. Hartmut Ebke, Germany.

On the first day of the conference brief country reports were presented. Intensive work on the project documentation and the CertiLingua Compendium was done during both days. The first day ended with a walking tour in Old Tallinn followed by a dinner in the restaurant “Maikrahv”. Maikrahv is a romantic restaurant with medieval ambience, delicious food and friendly service, located right in the heart of the old town, the Town Hall Square.

On the second day we could listen to Prof. David Marsh (Helsinki /Finland) on the topic “Realizing innovation stories in the field”. We, the organizers of the conference, received CertiLingua website: www.certilingua.net/

The next annual conference takes place in Hannover in 2018.



The 3rd Foreign Language Teachers Autumn Conference

Estonian Foreign Languages Teachers Association (EFLTA) organizes its 3rd autumn conference “Challenges and possibilities for the digital age school” on **24 - 25 November** at TUT Virumaa College in Kohtla-Järve.

The conference topics include: peculiarities of the digital age school, teacher effectiveness and professional development, language programmes and projects, digital tools and good practices, assessment and testing (incl national examinations, e-testing) **Kirkhan** and **Katarzyna Ścibor** They conduct also workshops.

Les Kirkham, independent consultant, has worked in English language education as a teacher and manager for about 40 years. He has spoken at conferences in Australia, Azerbaijan, China, Switzerland, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Georgia, the UAE and Uzbekistan. He deals with teacher effectiveness in his plenary speech. He focuses on perceived characteristics of effective teachers, especially language teachers, from the point of view of students, colleagues and administrators and what this means for each of us as individual, unique teachers.

Katarzyna Ścibor is an international teacher trainer who besides presenting also coordinates Pearson teacher training activities in over 30 countries of Central and Eastern Europe taking immense joy in and inspiration from contacts with teachers from all educational sectors. *The plenary Let's run it up the flagpole...In search of the magic educational wand.* The presenter raises the question: If there was a magic learning wand our students might have their biggest dream fulfilled. They'd learn faster, with less effort and better results. If teachers had the wand... but maybe we do!

After lunch on both days it is possible to participate in workshops and listen to presentations /talks made by teachers, university lecturers, teacher trainers, foundation Inno language specialists, publishers and the representatives of language teacher networks.

In the evening of the conference first day the bus takes all participants to Kukruse manor where the reception takes place. The hospitable manor awaits us with its exciting exposition, delicious food and the possibility to have time travel to the past- an excursion with a guide, during which old-fashioned costumes are tried on; ink and pen is used for writing a letter, which is formed into an historical document and sealed with a real stamp.

The sponsors of the conference are the Estonian Ministry of Education and Science, Allecto AS, Pearson Education, bookshop Krisostomus.

News from Bili, associate member of FIPLV

Bili is the free online student language exchange, which enables regular and structured peer-to-peer interaction, in a safe, teacher monitored space. Through [Bili](#), languages teachers can connect with existing links abroad, or find new partner schools through our [school matching process](#).

We are delighted to announce that over 250 schools are now registered across the world*, using Bili as a powerful tool to enhance and maximise the direct communication between their students.

Finally, we've just finished creating our dashboard tours, so that you can get a glimpse of how it all works:

[Bili students](#) create their own profiles, interact with their Bili-pal every week, and can see all the best exchanges from their partners here and abroad!

[Bili teachers](#) can assign their classes weekly tasks, track their progress & showcase the best work to the wider school community!

* Currently exchanges are offered between English, French, Spanish and German; however we are interested in expanding our repertoire if there is demand.

Please do get in touch if you have any questions, or if you'd like to share with your own associations.

www.bili.uk.com

charliefoot@bili.uk.com

News about IRIS and teacher research

[IRIS](#) is a free, digital repository of materials used to collect data for research into second language learning and teaching. FIPLV has been supporting IRIS since it first began to be developed, as we feel that it is a hugely valuable resource.

IRIS now holds over 3600 materials ready for use and adaptation by teachers and researchers. These materials can be used to investigate common questions teachers have about their practice, classrooms and students (as demonstrated in [this presentation](#) for SEETA). IRIS can also be used to facilitate teacher educators in training teachers to promote reflective practice. For support with training contact iris@iris-database.org. For IRIS news and updates on open science follow the [IRIS Facebook page](#).

