Dear friends and colleagues,

Despite the circumstances, the second half of the year 2021 was marked by the return of face-to-face meetings. At the beginning of September (6-8/09), the first Esperanto-paradigm workshop was held in Berlin, funded by the Franco-German University. The initiative comes from four universities in three countries (France, Germany and Scotland): the Marc Bloch Research Center in Berlin, the University of Bonn, the EHESS in Paris and the University of St Andrews. The general purpose is to verify the wide concept of an Esperanto-paradigma.

Is Esperanto only of interest to the Esperanto-speaking community? Or does the uniqueness of its experience allow us to ask broader questions? Learning, spreading and using Esperanto is a radical choice to build a supra-national and extra-state community free of cultural imperialism. From the beginning, it has been a bottom-up experience that flourished outside of institutions. Historically, it is the oldest and most enduring transnational and global movement. Nowadays the political influence of grassroots transnational movements is increasing and Esperantism together with its long experience allows us to see more clearly the morphology of this evolution. The aim of our series of workshops (2021-2023) is to compare the values and practices of these social movements. Despite the restrictions, students and researchers came to Berlin from France, Germany, Spain, Scotland, Switzerland and Turkey. The online audience was larger, from South America to Asia. After the workshop a symposium was held to discuss the current issues of conservation and accessibility of archives related to the history of the Esperanto movement. A fruitful exchange took place with Duncan Charters (UEA), Mark Fettes (CED), Susanne Henschel (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin), Ana Manero (Bitoteko, Madrid), Orlando Raola (UEA), Roland Rotsaert and Marc Vanden Bempt (International International Esperanto Archives initiative), Humphrey Tonkin (ESF) and Bernhard Tuider (ÖNB, Viena). There is no doubt that the seminar enabled researchers to become aware of the specificity and richness of the thematic agenda of Esperanto and at the same
time to situate the study of the Esperanto movement in a broader perspective. It contributed to the creation of an intellectual and academic community that is gradually taking on some of the themes related to Esperanto and elaborating new analysis patterns. The next workshop of the “Esperanto paradigm” series will be at the University of Bonn, in spring 2022, with the general topic "pacifist practices".

Our next event will take place in Paris at Campus Condorcet on 17 December 2021 and will also be accessible on-line. This workshop is organised on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the foundation in 1921 in Prague of SAT (World Anationalist Association), the main organisation of the Esperantist labour movement. Since then it has brought together many Esperantists involved in the various left-wing tendencies within the workers' movement, who share the desire to abolish linguistic and cultural borders in order to unify struggles across national borders.

The workers' Esperanto movement is radically opposed to essentialist variants of internationalism, considering that nations are just groups that are formed, evolve and disappear over the long-term according to the interests of the bourgeoisie. Only the adoption of Esperanto could lead to the establishment of a world proletarian culture and to an egalitarian revolutionary practice, a condition for the emancipation of the workers of all countries, bringing together the exploited from the developed countries and those from the colonies. Over the past century, this political position has been widely discussed and contested within and outside the movement. It has led to numerous theoretical ramifications that contribute to the richness of this transnational and decentralised collective experience. The workshop of December 2021 intends to retrace some episodes of this little-known experience and to re-interrogate the history of the workers' and revolutionary movements in the light of the interrelation between languages, cultures and nations.

Pascal Dubourg Glatigny

Latest articles

- **La malmilito de svisa esperantisto**
  Claude Gacond was only 8 years old when the war broke out. When he returned to Switzerland from France with his family in August 1939, the general mobilisation and the upheavals it entailed forged an indelible memory in his mind. The experience of war on the frontier, in contact with the extreme danger without being a victim, gave him the will, as an adult, to commit himself to oppose the violence of these divisions. On the occasion of his 90th birthday, Claude Gacond comes back to these themes and to his life-long commitment to Esperanto, in a video interview conducted by Sébastien Moret.

- **Fotisto en la intermilita Eŭropo**
  Julián Loyola was an ordinary Esperantist, a medical doctor in northern Spain. Before the war, he took part in many universal congresses, including the Cologne Congress in 1933, and took many photographs of events and people. Javier Alcalde presents us with this exceptional collection, which is now preserved by the Archives of the Province of La Rioja.

- **Radikala Zamenhofa militisto**
  The Cuban-born colonel Julio Mangada was an early Esperantist and founder of the Zamenhofan federation in 1917. Faithful to his commitment to workers' rights and democracy, he became one of the best-known soldiers of the Republican defence during the Spanish War. José Antonio del Barrio shows us how his attachment to Freemasonry and his loyalty to Esperantism constantly guided his life choices and his engagement.
Latest news

- **Kanto pri la murdita juda popolo / Milita antaüsento de Józef Czechowicz**
  The Ars Libri publishing house in Lublin is known for its extensive Esperanto programme on the cultural contribution of Polish writers and the Holocaust. This year's productions include translations of Itzhak Katzenelson’s *Song of the jewesh murdered people* (1944) in a bilingual book yiddish-esperanto and *I will shoot myself and die over and over again* (before 1939) by the gay poet Józef Czechowicz.

- **Militpoemoj de Kalocsay**
  The polyglot A. Z. Formann has published his own translation into English, with a recording of his declamation in both languages, of two important war poems by Kálmán Kalocsay. *Murder age* and *To a Friend in a POW Camp* belong to the cycle *Through the Storm* published in Budapest in 1966 in the collection *Golden Duo*. In addition, the Austrian National Library is hosting a virtual exhibition on Kalocsay this year.

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Newsletter Militrakonto - Responsable de la publication : Pascal Dubourg Glatigny

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