



# INFOTERM NEWSLETTER

## INL 131 - 2009

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## Editorial

The Infoterm publication strategy was initiated in 1980 with the support of UNESCO and the assistance of the Translation Bureau of the Canadian government. The publication scheme started off from the Infoterm Newsletter (INL) and was extended towards TermNet News (TNN, 1980), BiblioTerm (BIT, 1983), STandardTerm (STT, 1989) and Terminology Standardization and Harmonization (TSH, 1989).

At the end of the 1990s, INL was turned into an electronic publication – not least due to the financial burden involved in its distribution. Given the fact that the Internet has revolutionized the editing, publishing and distribution processes, Infoterm had to revise its publication strategy.

Although BIT, STT and TSH ceased to be published at the end of 2008, the Infoterm Newsletter (INL) has been and still is the official quarterly of Infoterm. However, starting with this issue, INL will henceforth provide information on terminology and language related activities, projects, events and publications of Infoterm and its members, affiliates and cooperation partners only.

We hope you will approve of this new strategy and wish you happy reading.

The Editorial Team

## Cyber Network for Learning Languages (CNLL)

On the initiative of **UNESCO**, the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed in 2007, at its 61<sup>st</sup> session, 2008 the International Year of Languages (IYL2008). UNESCO, where languages and the promotion of multilingualism lie at the very core of its mission and objectives, was named lead agency for IYL2008. Therefore, UNESCO invited Member States to formulate appropriate national policies on the crucial issue of language diversity in cyberspace. This includes promoting the teaching of languages, including mother tongues, in cyberspace and facilitating the development of tools and materials including open learning resources and open source tools for e-learning of languages.

In 1999, UNESCO's General Conference adopted the term "**multilingual education**" (30 C/Resolution 12) which refers to the use of at least three languages in education. Indeed, language competences acquired through school and in lifelong learning settings are conducive to effectively sharing knowledge, promoting intercultural understanding and ultimately building peace among peoples. The use of ICT (information and communication technologies) and online platforms for learning languages can accelerate and facilitate the enhancement of language competences of learners of all age groups and give wider and more affordable access to language learning resources worldwide.

It is against this background that China proposed to harness the power of ICT to advance the learning of languages by establishing a "cyber network for learning languages" under UNESCO auspices. This proposal was approved by the Executive Board (180 EX/Decision 61).

China was requested to investigate the possibilities to promote learning of languages and their applications among others through an online multilingual platform covering the following aspects:

- policies on learning languages at the international, regional and national levels
- literacy and post-literacy activities (incl. mother-tongues and other languages)
- more open and accessible resources for learning languages
- effective dissemination and use of language learning resources under UNESCO auspices, including:
  - o modules for language teaching and learning
  - o terminology control
  - o machine assisted translations, etc.
- providing /a platform for/ a community of practices to formulate proposals for standards and norms for language learning in cyberspace, including:
  - o modules for rating systems for online language learning tools
  - o (standards-based) developing (standards-based) language learning resources
  - o developing (standards-based) language learning tools
  - o developing (standards-based) language learning systems
  - o making language learning products available online
- setting up an international network-based research group on language learning
  - o to formulate norms and guidelines on the content and quality of language teaching material.

To this extent, China was asked to set up an international expert group

- to study the feasibility of establishing a cyber network for learning languages
- to elaborate a detailed work plan including budgetary implications and addressing the long-term sustainability of the possible establishment of the network
- to make recommendations as to the role and functions of the UNESCO Secretariat in the possible establishment and operations of the network
- to submit a report.

This **Expert Group Meeting** took place on **26-27 March 2009** in Beijing, which the **Director of Infoterm** attended in his capacity as **Rapporteur**. The main objective of this meeting was to review UNESCO's work on languages and multilingualism, which takes many forms: capacity building, research and analysis, raising awareness, supporting projects, developing networks, disseminating information. As these activities are interdisciplinary in nature, they are spread throughout UNESCO's five programme areas, each one addressing particular aspects of language issues:

- Education
- Natural Sciences
- Social and Human Sciences
- Culture
- Communication and Information



The meeting was split into three sessions:

Session 1 - "Current landscape of cyber platforms and networks for language learning"

Session 2 - "Parameters for the Cyber Network for Learning Languages"

Session 3 - "Options and feasibility of a Cyber Network"

Having considered existing UNESCO's activities and tools such as the "Atlas of the World's languages in danger" and the "Open Training Platform" (OTP), the expert group came up with concrete suggestions to establish a CNLL filling certain gaps and focusing on distributed UNESCO activities. The need for considering new approaches was emphasized.



During their stay in Beijing, the Director and the Deputy-Director of Infoterm, Dr. Christian Galinski and Mag. Anja Drame, respectively, as well as the Head of the Center for Translation Studies in Vienna, Austria, Prof. Dr. Gerhard Budin, met with experts from the [Institute of Computational Linguistics at Peking University](#) (ICL/PKU).

Infoterm and ICL, a leading fundamental research institute for language information processing, have shared friendship ties since the 1<sup>st</sup> TSTT (International Conference on Terminology, Standardization and Technology Transfer, Beijing) in 1991.

Among the major ICL projects in the pipeline are the creation of:

- a grammatical knowledge base for contemporary Chinese,
- Chinese Semantic and Concept Dictionaries,
- English-Japanese-German-Chinese Terminology of computational linguistics,
- an analysis of metaphors in Chinese text, as well as
- a knowledge base on idioms which have a number of 19 attributes for each recorded idiom.

Over the last years, the Institute's research focus has shifted from syntactic to semantics. The Concept Dictionary project started in 2000 and will in the future also add Korean and Japanese to its current bilingual version (Chinese and English). The Analysis of metaphors from ancient and contemporary Chinese corpus will help improving textual content analysis.

## Council for German-Language Terminology (RaDT)



Infoterm was represented at the **30<sup>th</sup> session of the Council for German-Language Terminology (RaDT)**, held at the Federal Chancellery, Bern, from **27 to 28 March 2009**. "Knowledge is the only resource that increases when it is shared" said State Chancellor of Canton Bern, Dr. Kurt Nuspliger, at the first day's social event. "I'm proud to welcome the RaDT today in this historic Town Hall and thus be part of this knowledge democratization that is one direct result of terminology work", he added.

Founded in 1994 by the German, Swiss and Austrian National Commissions for UNESCO, respectively, the RaDT comprises today 25 members, most of them being well renowned terminology experts. The Luxembourg National Commission for UNESCO joined the RaDT in 2002.

Infoterm has been present from the very beginning and, over the years, has witnessed such important and much quoted policy papers like the well-known „[Domänenverlust im Deutschen - Stirbt Deutsch als Fachsprache?](#)“ (Domain loss in German - Is German disappearing as a language for special purpose?) or the [Professional Profile for Terminologists](#). The RaDT, whose members are actively involved in different kinds of terminological associations answers urgent needs and requests that are voiced by terminology professionals. At present, the members of RaDT are developing a brochure that will help terminologists communicate and lobby their profession in commercial companies.

For further information on the Central Terminology Services of the State Chancellery of Canton Bern, see: <http://www.sta.be.ch/site/weiteres-zweisprachigkeit-terminologie.htm>

## Interpreting the Future — International Conference in Berlin



**Infoterm** will be represented by its President, Prof. Dr. K.-D. Schmitz, at the International Conference "Interpreting the Future - Challenges for Interpreters and Translators Arising from Globalisation", **11-13 September 2009**, which is being organized by the Federal Association of Interpreters and Translators (BDÜ), the largest association representing professional linguists in the German-speaking countries.

75 presentations, 12 workshops and 3 open forums have been selected for the conference programme.

For the latter see: <http://www.interpreting-the-future.com>

## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS AND PARTNERS

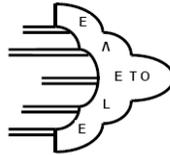
### UNESCO



On **20 February 2009**, UNESCO celebrated the **10<sup>th</sup> International Mother Language Day (IMLD)**  
On the Agenda:

- **Presentation of the third edition** of the [Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger](#), which is intended to raise awareness about language endangerment and the need to safeguard the world's linguistic diversity among policy-makers, speaker communities and the general public, and to be a tool to monitor the status of endangered languages and the trends in linguistic diversity at the global level.
- **Closure of the International Year of Languages 2008**
- **“Languages Matter for Communities: The Way Forward”** A Roundtable discussion attended by grassroots practitioners from around the world.

In his [message](#), Koïchiro Matsuura, Director-General of UNESCO, pointed out that besides "laying emphasis on each community's recognition of its own mother tongue, the Day has increasingly drawn the international community's attention to the foundations of linguistic diversity and multilingualism. It has also become clear that languages, which form part of the identity of individuals and peoples, are key to the Education for All and Millennium Development Goals."



## HELLENIC SOCIETY FOR TERMINOLOGY (ELETO)

ELETO, in cooperation with the University of Athens (UOA), the Athens University of Economics and Business (AUEB), the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki (AUTH), the University of Patras, the National Technical University of Athens (NTUA), the University of Cyprus, the Technical Chamber of Greece (TCG), the Institute for Language and Speech Processing (ILSP), the Hellenic Organization for Standardization (ELOT), and the Organization for the Promotion of the Hellenic Language, organizes the **7<sup>th</sup> Conference "Hellenic Language and Terminology"** from **22 to 24 October 2009** in Athens.

The aim of the Conference is to present the current situation of the Greek language from a terminological point of view, as well as methods, practices and tools of Terminology science, and their application in the Greek language environment – monolingual and/or interlingual –, with a view to promote terminological research and contribute to the present-day terminological enrichment of the Greek language.

The Conference is dedicated to **Aristotle**, the father of ontology and logic, which are at the basis of the contemporary science of Terminology.

For further details and the Call for papers, see: <http://www.eleto.gr/en/Conference07.htm>

## PAN SOUTH AFRICAN LANGUAGE BOARD (PanSALB)



### Annual Multilingualism Awards

The **Annual Multilingualism Awards** were established in 2002 to honour individuals, projects and institutions who work to promote linguistic diversity in South Africa. PanSALB is an Infoterm Member.

„The awards bear good testimony to South Africa's rainbow nation, who speaks in 11 official languages, yet fly one official flag“, PanSALB Acting Chief Executive Officer Chris Swepu said during the **Award Ceremony in Johannesburg on 21 March 2009**. "We believe that the awards will go a long way in acknowledging individuals or institutions that promote the official South African languages, multilingualism and the use and development of the indigenous languages and cross-cultural understanding, as well as raise awareness of the role of language in uniting the people of South Africa. In South Africa people are proud to be associated with the language they learnt as a toddler. At PanSALB we are proud to protect this right," Swepu said.

Winners: <http://www.pansalb.org.za/news.html>

## Soccer Terminology in African Languages for 2010 and beyond

The **Pan South African Language Board** is part of a consortium to develop soccer terminology in preparation of the **FIFA World Cup in South Africa**. The international mega event will take place for the first time in an African country from **11 June to 11 July 2010**.

To prepare media coverage and other linguistic services in all official South African languages, a joint project between PanSALB, the National Language Service, the public broadcaster SABC and sports experts is currently underway to develop terms and definitions in the nine African languages. These languages are IsiZulu, Isixhosa, SiSwati, IsiNdebele, Setswana, Sepedi, Sesotho, Tshivenda, and Xitsonga. Most importantly, the project will promote multilingualism in the field of sports and contribute to generate the much-needed enthusiasm around the **2010 Soccer World Cup**.



In a series of workshops, soccer and language specialists as well as all interested parties including traditional leaders and cultural activists will converge to discuss a draft terminology list. The outcome of the consultative process will be verified and authenticated by the Pan South African Language Board. The final terminology list will be distributed to government agencies and members of the public.

## LANGUAGE INSTITUTE OF THE AUSTRIAN ARMED FORCES (SIB/LVAK)

The Institute organizes every year Termdays devoted to terminology- and translation-related issues. In 2008, SIB/LVak generously hosted, inter alia, the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council for German-Language Terminology (RaDT), which was greatly appreciated by the participants. In 2009, the Termdays will be held June in the military recreation resort of Iselsheim. Guests are expected from Germany, Switzerland, Estonia, Finland, Ukraine and Hungary.

In addition, Walter Wintschalek and Jürgen Kotzian from the Institute's Terminology Section visited the following institutions in June 2008:

- Language Service of the Finnish Armed Forces in Helsinki
- Language Department at the Finnish Defence University in Santahamina
- Language Department of the Estonian National Defence School in Tartu

## FEDERAL CHANCELLERY OF SWISS CONFEDERATION

### Online Public Version of TERMDAT Released

The **Federal Chancellery of the Swiss Confederation** has officially released the online public version of their terminology database **TERMDAT**, announced MultiCorpora on 6 April 2009

Online access to the Swiss Confederation's terminology records was previously only available via the intranet to the federal administration and public sector institutions, and to other selected partners with certificate access. According to Franco Fomasi, Head of the Federal Chancellery's Terminology Section, "The initiative will help expand the information offered by the federal language services and create new opportunities for collaboration with existing partners. It will also enhance the ability of the Terminology Section to share approved multilingual terminology in the official Swiss languages, German, French, Italian and Romansh, as well as in English."

The Terminology Section, which maintains TERMDAT, is an active member of various national and international terminology networks, including the Conference of Translation Services of European States ([COTSOES](#)), and the Council for German-Language Terminology ([RaDT](#) - Rat für Deutschsprachige Terminologie).

**BOOKS AND JOURNALS**

recently published by Infoterm Members, Affiliates and Cooperation Partners

**John Benjamins Publishing Company**

CENOZ, JASONE; GORTER, DURK (eds)  
**Multilingualism and Minority Languages**  
 Achievements and challenges in education  
 Amsterdam [i.a.]: John Benjamins, 2009. 110 p.  
 (AILA Review, Vol. 21) ISBN 978 90 272 3993 8

[http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t\\_bookview.cgi?bookid=AILA%2021](http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t_bookview.cgi?bookid=AILA%2021)



ALCINA, AMPARO (ed)  
**Teaching and Learning Terminology**  
 New Strategies and Methods  
 Amsterdam [i.a.]: John Benjamins, 2009.  
 (Special Issue vol. 15, N° 1), ISSN: 0929-9971

*For the Table of Contents of this Journal, see:*

[http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t\\_bookview.cgi?bookid=TERM%2015%3A1](http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t_bookview.cgi?bookid=TERM%2015%3A1)



BEEBY, ALLISON; RODRÍGUEZ, INÉS; SÁNCHEZ-GIJÓN, PILAR  
**Corpus Use and Translation**  
 Corpus use for learning to translate and learning corpus use to translate (Benjamins Translation Library 82)  
 Amsterdam [i.a.]: John Benjamins, 2009. 151p. ISBN 978 90 272 24262

*For the Table of Contents of this Journal, see:*

[http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t\\_bookview.cgi?bookid=BTL%2082](http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t_bookview.cgi?bookid=BTL%2082)



HOGAN-BRUN, GABRIELLE; MAR-MOLINERO, CLARE; STEVENSON, PATRICK (eds)  
**Discourses on Language and integration**  
 Critical perspectives on language testing regimes in Europe  
 Amsterdam [i.a.]: John Benjamins, 2009. xiii, 170 p.  
 (Discourse Approaches to Politics, Society and Culture 33)  
 ISBN 978 90 272 0623 7

*For the Table of Contents of this Journal, see:*

[http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t\\_bookview.cgi?bookid=DAPSAC%2033](http://www.benjamins.com/cgi-bin/t_bookview.cgi?bookid=DAPSAC%2033)

**LISA**

LOMMELE; ARLE; ABGARIAN, ANNA;  
**Globalization Services in Russia: Market Assessment and Analysis**  
 Domaine en Praël: The Localization Standards Association (LISA), 2008. approx. 75 p.  
 ISBN 902 9228 045

This report contains data needed for the translation and localization (T&L) services sector and for the language technologies market in Russia. It is based on research and interviews conducted in May and June 2008 with more than 100 companies about their experiences in the Russian language services market, either as providers or as customers of those services. [\[more\]](#)

## UNESCO



**Museum International N° 239**  
**Languages between heritage and development**  
Oxford: Wiley Blackwell, 2008. (Vol. 60 N° 3) ISSN 1350 0775

To view the Table of Contents:

[http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=37920&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=37920&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

To order this issue: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/121406223/issue>

## EUROPEAN UNION

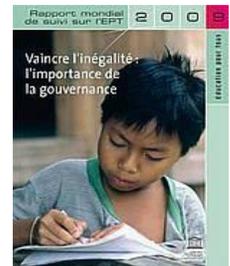
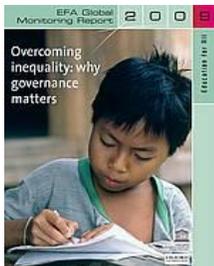
Pursuant to the [Resolution on a European Strategy for Multilingualism](#), adopted by the Education, Youth and Culture Council of the European Union on 21 November 2008, la Délégation générale à la langue française et aux langues de France ([DGLFLF](#)) issued a paper entitled “**Multilinguisme, traduction et dialogue interculturel**” - **Références 2009** (Multilingualism, translation and intercultural dialogue), which calls, *inter alia*, for the improvement of existing terminological tools and further development of language technologies.

On the basis of the above Resolution, the **European Parliament** adopted on 24 March 2009 the [Resolution on Multilingualism: an asset for Europe and a shared commitment](#).

## ONLINE PUBLICATIONS

## UNESCO

### EFA Global Monitoring Report 2009



The French version of the [EFA Global Monitoring Report 2009](#) entitled [Rapport mondial de suivi sur l'EPT 2009](#) was launched on 6 April 2009 at UNESCO Headquarters.

The full report can also be obtained in print version (English and French) from [UNESCO Publishing](#)

There exists also a Summary Report in German: [Weltbericht „Bildung für Alle“ 2009](#)

## Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger



On **19 February 2009**, UNESCO launched the [electronic version](#) of the new edition of its **Atlas of the World's Languages in Danger**. This interactive digital tool provides updated data about approximately 2,500 endangered languages around the world and can be continually supplemented, corrected and updated, thanks to contributions from its users. The Atlas enables searches according to several criteria, and ranks the 2,500 endangered languages that are listed according to five different levels of vitality: unsafe, definitely endangered, severely endangered, critically endangered and extinct.

The hard-copy version of the 2009 Atlas will be released in May.

See also in this connection:

The UNESCO Courier N° 2 of this year, entitled [Endangered languages, endangered thought](#)

## Securing a Place for a Language in Cyberspace



This publication is now available in:

[English](#)

[French](#)

[Spanish](#)

[Russian](#)

## UNESCO's WSIS Action Directory can be accessed online



### [UNESCO WSIS ACTION DIRECTORY](#)

How UNESCO is implementing the WSIS Action Plan



### [RÉPERTOIRE UNESCO DES ACTIONS POUR LE SMSI](#)

UNESCO met en œuvre le Plan d'action du SMSI

## Launch of the World Digital Library



In the presence of representatives of national libraries from all over the world, the Director-General of UNESCO and Dr. Billington, Director of the Library of Congress, the **World Digital Library (WDL)**, a web site that features unique cultural materials from libraries and archives from around the world, was launched at **UNESCO Headquarters** on **21 April 2009**. The site includes manuscripts, maps, rare books, films, sound recordings, and prints and photographs. It provides unrestricted public access, free of charge, to this material in seven languages: Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish. It will also include material in additional languages.

## TERMCAT



### TERMCAT offers the download of terminology on health sciences

The Centre de Terminologia (TERMCAT), Barcelona, offers a new online set of the Terminologia Oberta collection, the *TO Ciències de la salut (Malalties)*, that gathers exactly 16.859 concept files, with the denominations in **Catalan and English**.

<http://www.termcat.cat/productes/toberta.htm>

### TERMCAT and UOC create an observatory on information society terminology

Universitat Oberta de Catalunya (UOC) and the Terminology Centre TERMCAT have created **TALAIA**, (*Observatori de terminologia de la societat del coneixement, en línia*) an observatory on information society terminology resulting from a collaboration agreement between both entities.

The aim of Talaia is to offer quality neological terminology in **Catalan, Spanish and English**, to facilitate specialized communications and favour multilingual work and study researches on emerging neology or terms having a relevant use among the specialists community.

<http://www.termcat.cat/dicci/talaia/index.html>

## GERMAN TERMINOLOGY ASSOCIATION (DTT)



This year's first issue of DTT's Terminology Journal eDITION focuses on **Terminology-Tools and -Ressources**

To view the Table of Contents:

<http://www.iim.fh-koeln.de/dtt/Dokumente/edition-2009-1-inhalt-web.pdf>

#### IMPRESSUM:

##### Medieninhaber, Herausgeber, Verleger:

Internationales Informationszentrum für Terminologie (Infoterm)  
Gymnasiumstrasse 50  
1190 Wien, ÖSTERREICH  
Telefon: +43-664 3446 181  
E-mail: [infopoint@infoterm.org](mailto:infopoint@infoterm.org)  
URL: <http://www.infoterm.info>

**Editor/Rédacteur:** Christian Galinski, Anja Drame, Dorothée Eichfelder

**Layout:** Blanca Nájera

**Note to contributors:** The submission of articles for inclusion in the Infoterm Newsletter is welcome. Authors alone are responsible for views expressed in signed articles, which are not necessarily those of Infoterm.

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#### Offenlegung nach § 24 Mediengesetz:

Der Infoterm Newsletter (INL) ist das offizielle, vierteljährlich erscheinende Informationsblatt des Internationalen Informationszentrums für Terminologie (Infoterm). Das Sekretariat von Infoterm fungiert als internationale Informationsstelle für alle Terminologiefragen, es fördert und koordiniert im öffentlichen Interesse weltweit terminologische Aktivitäten. INL enthält insbesondere Informationen über die Tätigkeiten der Infoterm-Mitglieder und Kooperationspartner und verfolgt dabei keine parteilichen oder ideologischen Zielsetzungen.

The Infoterm Newsletter (INL) is the official quarterly of the International Information Centre for Terminology (Infoterm). It informs its readership of the latest developments in the field of terminology. In addition, INL provides information on the latest activities and on future events of Infoterm members and co-operation partners.

Le Bulletin d'information (INL) est l'organe officiel trimestriel du Centre international d'information pour la terminologie (Infoterm). INL informe ses lecteurs sur les développements les plus récents dans le domaine de la terminologie. Il donne également un aperçu des activités et projets des membres et des partenaires d'Infoterm.