

ESPERANTO DAY

26.07.2017



Fair communication







About languages: www.lingvo.info
About interethnic communication: www.esperanto.net | www.uea.org



INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE

26th July, Esperanto Day



26-a de julio Esperanto-Tago



26th July – Esperanto Day – The day of linguistic justice. Why Esperanto Day? Why is it important for the World now?

26 July 1887 saw the first teaching manual in the international language Esperanto. Esperanto is intended only for use in relations between individuals of different languages and provides a neutral basis for communication: thus communication between them would be fair. No one should have the right to feel superior to the oth er. At home each speak their own language.

• We suggest that the World adopt and celebrate the 26th of July as a day of the equal communication and therefore a basis of relationships between ethnic groups, cultures, and peoples.

Fair communication means communication amongst people in which everyone has the same opportunities. It is clear that if some individuals may speak in their native tongue, whilst others have to speak in a foreign language, a situation of equality is non-existent.

The choice of one or several languages over others signals the importance or the mastery of those for whom the used languages is their native language. This choice excludes men of politics, education, access to goods and many other aspects of life. It strengthens socio-economic inequalities between groups.

There are language rights of the people and human rights with linguistic content. Freedom of expression and the use of any language are inseparable.

Experience around the World shows that multilingual policies can enlarge opportunities for people in many ways. What an egalitarian World needs is a trilingual formula, already recommended by UNESCO, which gives public recognition to the use of three languages: native, national regional, international

- Mother tongue. People want and need to be able to use their mother tongue as this is neither the local nor the international language.
- A national / regional language. Language of the local language facilitates the bonding and facilitates communication between different language groups such as Swahili in East African countries, where many languages are spoken.
- One international language. In this age of globalization, all people must be competent in a neutral international language, which places everyone on the same level.

Countries need to recognize all three as official languages and to recognize their use and teaching. There are many versions of such trilingual formulas, depending on the country. Whilst it is possible and even desirable that the State remains "neutral" on ethnicity and religion, this is impossible with a language. The people in the World, as well as civil society in the individual countries, need a common language to promote mutual understanding and effective communication, but at the same time have the right to use their mother tongue.

The international language, Esperanto, offers a neutral tool which ensures linguistic human rights at the international level.

"Of all the planned world languages Esperanto is today the best known and most used. According to me, it will bring many benefits, if people will consider it seriously. ... Esperanto need less time to learn than any 'natural' language, because it is a regular and logical and without exceptions. However, in Esperanto one can say whatever you want, because anyone can easily create new words" said the world-famous linguist Dr. Tove Skutnabb-Kangas (www.tove-skutnabb-kangas.org). It also prevents the hegemony of current great powers. These powers at present are held bythe English-speaking world. Thus English has become so powerful in the world. But, what will be the future, after 50 years? "Strengthening the rights of speakers of all languages is a matter to which Esperanto can significantly contribute" added another well-known linguist, Robert Phillipson (www.cbs.dk/en/staff/rpibc).

- It is time to stop following the present linguistic dominance of English; we must begin to establish a situation of equality among all the peoples of the world.
- Esperanto will implement equal communication.



Esperanto Association of Britain (EAB)

http://www.esperanto.org.uk/



Australian Esperanto Association (AEA)

http://aea.esperanto.org.au/



Canadian Esperanto Association (KEA)

http://www.esperanto.ca/



New Zealand Esperanto Association (NZEA)

http://en.esperanto.org.nz/



Esperanto-USA

http://www.esperanto-usa.org/



Universal Esperanto Association (UEA) Universala Esperanto-Asocio (UEA)

www.uea.org



Linguistic Rights www.linguistic-rights.org/esperanto-tago

Information about Esperanto

www.esperanto.net

lernu! free courses and information on Esperanto, the living language useful for easy communication.

www.lernu.net

The world's most popular way to learn **Esperanto** online, for free, in just 5 minutes a day!

https://en.duolingo.com/course/eo/en/Learn-Esperanto-Online

Esperanto Day Posters: © Peter Oliver/UEA and translators from different countries

Text: UEA/ZPI and translators

(ZPI: UEA, Department of Public Information) | Stefano Keller, 2017