

Dear Colleagues,

*Ciceronianism, European Studies, Eurolinguistics*, a joint symposium of the 'Euro-Linguistischer Arbeitskreis Mannheim' and of the scholars who identify with the aims of '2.000. *The European Journal*', will be held at RomaTre University on **29-30 September 2016**.

The themes of the symposium are:

- 1) *Theodor Mommsen and Cicero. For Theodor Mommsen's (1817-2017) bicentenary.*
- 2) *Genesis and Migration of Indo-European Languages- Research and theories on their origin.*
- 3) *On the origins of the idea of Europe.*

Those who would like to take part should send an abstract of their papers, along with a short c.v, to [Cicero Euro Linguistics@fastwebnet.it](mailto:Cicero_Euro_Linguistics@fastwebnet.it) (Matthew Fox and Ermanno Malaspina for Ciceronianism, P. Sture Ureland for Eurolinguistics, Vincenzo Merolle for European Studies), by the **end of May**.

This will be the first of a number of symposia, to be held in the coming years, in Rome or at other European universities.

The underlying idea from a philological point of view is that of analyzing the current development of European languages and of selecting a common vocabulary for Europe and the West. From a philosophical point of view, it will be that of promoting the ideas of tolerance and civilization proper to Western democracies.

Therefore, we invite the submission of papers and participation on the part of colleagues who, we are sure, will appreciate our efforts towards the advancement of learning.

Participants could be asked a small entrance fee (of no more that €30 per person), unless we are able to find some form of grant or sponsorship. Sincerely

On behalf of the editorial board

**Matthew Fox**  
**Ermanno Malaspina**  
**P. Sture Ureland**  
**Vincenzo Merolle**

Rome, 1 March 2016

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# **Manifesto**

of the symposium on  
**'Ciceronianism, European Studies, Eurolinguistics'**  
to be held at the University of Roma-Tre on 29-30 September 2016

The 'Euro-Linguistischer Arbeitskreis Mannheim' (chairman P. S. Ureland, Mannheim), together with the scholars who identify with the aims of "The European Journal", (editor Vincenzo Merolle, 'La Sapienza', Roma), convinced, as they are, that our civilization needs a greater endeavour aimed at superior understanding and maturity, have decided to unite their efforts to run joint symposia on 'Ciceronianism, European Studies, Eurolinguistics'. The symposia will take place every year, in autumn, c/o a European university, that will be chosen according to the opportunities that our colleagues will suggest.

First of all, why Ciceronianism? The obvious reason is that politically we support democratic and liberal ideas against any form of tyranny and of authoritarian, or limited, democracy. Cicero, as the champion of republican ideas and of the mixed constitution, is the main representative of such a tradition.

From a cultural point of view, Europe is a unified entity. Paradoxically, our cultural unity failed, although only in part, during the age of the Enlightenment, the age which historians commonly define as 'cosmopolitan', although it was then that the writers, Hume, Voltaire, Kant, abandoning Latin, or the 'lingua franca', began to write in their national languages. The common cement of our tradition remained nevertheless Latin, and Cicero is the author who more than any other is a recognized authority in this tradition.

As for our contemporary European world, languages are nowadays silently discarding words that are not shared in common, and the needs of communication, in Europe and the West, every day become more urgent and compelling. In daily practice we are therefore selecting a vocabulary that will be increasingly shared in common, and will eventually become understandable to cultivated people.

The aim of our project, from a linguistic point of view -here, as in its other aims, sketched in broad lines- is that of accompanying this process of selection, a process we must become fully aware of, and which we shall not simply receive from daily practice, but consciously direct and command.

The world is in fact becoming a 'global village', and the next step, the one which we aim to achieve, is a comprehensive picture of European civilization and of the history of our continent and the West.

For this aim we need the cooperation of more cultural associations, which only apparently have different aims, but whose efforts are directed to the end, common to all of us, of uncovering the roots of our history, in order to know and understand our modern world.

Languages reflect the history of peoples and, in our effort, linguistics will be one of the main fields of research. Communication is in fact what civilization principally needs, in the sense that peoples, when communicating, and therefore achieving a better knowledge of each other, realize that there is much in common between them, and fewer or no reasons at all for enmity and confrontation. The expansion of democratic ideas, which we have experienced in Europe after the tragedies of the last century, is mainly due to the spread of the means of communication, which demonstrate every day to all of us how humankind is everywhere the same, and that what is needed is a greater consciousness of this reality. The spread of learning produces, as a natural consequence, this consciousness. Its advancement is therefore the preliminary premise to a higher level of civilization, and will be our principal concern.

Democracy, as recent experiences show, cannot be exported with weapons, while past experiences justify us in the fear that it might not be 'irreversible', not a conquest forever. By contrast, democracy needs the maturity of generations, the superior consciousness of the nature of humankind and its aims. Acquiring such concepts, humankind can avoid passing through more tragedies such as the ones that last century covered both Europe and the world with blood.

Summarizing our aim: we want to accompany the historical process that is taking place, since historical change is uninterrupted; we want to be witnesses of our history, but with a glance towards the future.