

8. Particles

8.1. Particles

8.1.1. Adverbs, Prepositions, Conjunctions and Interjections are called Particles. They cannot always be distinctly classified, for many adverbs are used also as prepositions and many as conjunctions.

8.1.2. In a more strict definition, however, Particles are usually defined as autonomous elements, usually clitics, which make modifications in the verb or sentence, but which don't have a precise meaning, and which are neither adverbs nor preverbs nor conjunctions.

8.1.3. Europaio has some particles (in the strictest sense) which mark certain syntax categories:

a. Emphatics or Generalizers: they usually affect the sentence or a single word, generally a pronoun, but also a noun or verb. The particle **ge/gi**, **ghe/ghi** usually strengthens the negation, and emphasizes different pronouns.

NOTE. The origin of this particle is probably to be found in PIE **-qe**, acquiring its coordinate value from an older use as word-connector, from which the intensive/emphatic use is derived.

b. Verb Modifiers:

I. The old (and probably unused in IE III) **ti** have a middle sense value, reflexive.

II. The modal **-man**, associated with the Indicative, expresses potentiality (with the Present) and Irreality (with the Past).

NOTE. It is probably the same as the conjunction **man**, *if*, and related to **ma**, *but*.

III. The negative particle **me**, originally associated with the Indicative or forms indifferent to the moods.

c. Sentence categorizers: these particles indicate the class of sentence, whether negative or interrogative.

I. The absolute interrogatives were introduced in European dialects by special particles, **n** being the most general of them.

NOTE. The origin could be the *non-declarative* sense of the sentence, so that it comes from the negative **ne /n**.

II. Negation has usually two particles, etymologically related:

- Simple negation is made by the particle **ne**, lengthened in some dialects with *-i*, *-n*, *-d*, etc.

- Mood negation or prohibitive is the particle **me**.

d. Sentence Connectives: they introduce independent sentences or connect different sentences, or even mark the principal sentence among subordinates.

I. **so** and **to**, which are in the origin of the anaphoric pronoun we studied in § 6.5.

II. **nu**, which has an adverbial, temporal-consecutive meaning.

III. An introductory or connective **r**, which is possibly the origin of some coordinate conjunctions.

8.2. Adverbs

8.2.1. There is a class of invariable words, able to modify nouns and verbs, adding a specific meaning, whether semantical or deictic. They can be independent words (Adverbs); prefixes of verbal stems (Preverbs), originally independent but usually united with it; and also a nexus between a noun and a verb (Appositions), expressing a non-grammatical relationship, normally put behind, but sometimes coming before the word.

NOTE. As usual, in the oldest IE the three categories were probably only different uses of the same word class, but they were eventually assigned to one function and meaning. In fact, Adverbs are generally distinguished from the other two categories, so that they change due to innovation, while Preverbs and Appositions remain the same and normally freeze in their old positions.

8.2.2. Adverbs come usually from old particles which have obtained a specific deictic meaning. Traditionally, Adverbs are deemed to be the result of old oblique cases which have frozen in modern languages, losing inflection. However, this is not the origin of the oldest types (a lot of them being found in modern Europaio), which are not related to older nouns, but to old (possibly general noun-verb) roots.

8.3. Derivation of Adverbs

8.3.1. Adverbs are regularly formed from Nouns, Pronouns and Adjectives as follows:

A. From Pronouns:

I. With a nasal lengthening, added systematically to zero-grade forms, which gives adverbs in **-am**; as, **tam**, **qam**, **peram** (from lat.)

II. An **-s** lengthening, added to the adverb and not to the basic form, giving sometimes alternating adverbs; as, **ab/abs**, **ek/eks**, **ambhi/ambhis**, etc.

III. An **-r** lengthening; as, **qor**, **qir**, etc. which is added also to other derived adverbs. It is less usual than the other two.

Some older adverbs, derived as the above, have specialized as suffixes for adverb derivation, forming compound adverbs from two pronoun stems:

i. From the pronoun **de**, the nasalized **d_em** gives adverbs in **-dem**, **-dam**; as, **idem**, **qidam**, etc.

ii. From root **dhe** there are two adverbs which give suffixes with local meaning, from stems of pronouns, nouns, adverbs and prepositions:

a. an adverb in **-m**, **dhem/dhm**; as, **endhem**, **prosdhm**, etc.

b. an adverb in **-i**, **dhi**, as in **podhi**, **autodhi**, etc.

iii. From the root **te** there are also some adverbial suffixes with mood sense (also temporal, derived from it). So **ti**; as, **iti** or **itidem**, **ut(i)**, **proti**, **auti**, etc; and **t-(e)m**, **utm**, **item**, **eitm**, etc.

B. From nouns and adjectives (usually neuter accusatives), frozen as adverbs already in IE III. The older endings to form Adverbs are the same as those above, i.e. **-i**, **-u** and **-(e)m**, which are thus original Adverbs, and not only secondary forms. These Adverbs have normally precise, local meaning, not only abstract or deictic, and derive then

usually in temporal meanings. The endings **-i**, **-u**, **-r**, as well as nasal **-n** and also **-s**, as in the pronoun formations, are also given.

NOTE 1. It is not uncommon to find adverbs derived from noun stems which never had inflection, thus (probably) early frozen as adverbs in its pure stem.

NOTE 2. From these adverbs derived conjunctions with temporal-consecutive meaning (*then, so*) or contrastive (*on the contrary, instead*).

Some examples of known adverbs are:

ambhi, mbhi, *on both sides, around*

ana, *on, over, above;*

andh-/endh-/ndher, *down*

anti, *opposite, in front*

apo, po, *out, from*

au/wo, *out, far*

en(i) / n, *in*

epi, opi, pi: *towards here, around, circa*

et(i), oti; *beyond, past; over, on the other side;*

per, pr: *in front, opposite, around*

qu, from interrogative-indefinites *qi/qo*

upo, *under, down;* **uper(i)**, *up.*

8.4. Prepositions

8.4.1. Prepositions were not originally distinguished from Adverbs in form or meaning, but have become specialized in use. They developed comparatively late in the history of language. In the early stages of the IE language the cases alone were probably sufficient to indicate the sense, but, as the force of the case-endings weakened, adverbs were used for greater precision. These adverbs, from their habitual association with particular cases, became Prepositions; but many retained also their independent function as adverbs.

Most prepositions are true case-forms: as the comparatives **ekstero** (cf. *external*), **ndhero** (cf. *inferior*), **supero**, and the accusatives **kirkom**, **koram**, etc.

8.4.2. Prepositions are regularly used either with the Accusative or with the Oblique.

8.5. Conjunctions

8.5.1. Conjunctions, like prepositions, are closely related to adverbs, and are either petrified cases of nouns, pronouns and adjectives, or obscured phrases: as, **qod**, an old accusative. Most conjunctions are connected with pronominal adverbs, which cannot always be referred to their original case-forms.

8.5.2. Conjunctions connect words, phrases or sentences. They are divided in two main classes, Coordinate and Subordinate:

a. Coordinates are the oldest ones, which connect coordinated or similar constructions. All of them are put behind and are normally used as independent words. They are:

I. Copulative or disjunctive, implying a connection or separation of thought as well as of words: as, **qe**, *and*; **we**, *or*; **neqe**, *nor*.

II. Adversative, implying a connection of words, but a contrast in thought: as, **ma**, *but*.

III. Causal, introducing a cause or reason: as, **nam**, *for*.

IV. Illative, denoting an inference: as, **igitur**, *therefore*.

NOTE. Newer particles usually come before, and some of them are general, as the copulative **eti**, *and* (*et* in lat., probably with nasal infix in ger.), and illative **od**, *certainly*, or **odqe** in lat. Others are not so generalized.

b. Subordinates connect a subordinate or independent clause with that on which it depends. They are:

I. **jo**, which has general subordinate value (relative, final, conditional), and it is possibly related to the relative pronoun.

II. Conditional, denoting a condition or hypothesis: as, **man**, *if*; **neman**, *unless*.

III. Comparative, implying comparison as well as condition: as, **man**, *as if*.

IV. Concessive, denoting a concession or admission: as, **qamqam**, *although* (lit. *however much it may be true that*, etc.).

V. Temporal: as, **postqam**, *after*.

VI. Consecutive, expressing result: as, **ut(i)**, *so that*.

VII. Final, expressing purpose: as, **ut(i)**, *in order that*; **ne**, *that not*.

VIII. Causal, expressing cause: as, **qia**, *because*.

Conjunctions are more numerous and more accurately distinguished in Europaio than in English.

Criticisms

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We have included this section to facilitate the work for those who will want to criticize the Europaio option, so that they can think about new original arguments.

A. These are the most frequently encountered alternatives to *Europaio as the official language for Europe*, from more to less important:

1. One natural, living language: English or German. It is clearly the best option in practice after Europaio, as it imposes one language, wether that known by the majority of the International Community as second language, English, or the language which have more speakers than the others in the EU, German. I personally prefer German, but this option is clearly out of question, since the French and the English would probably never accept it. English should, then, be the one.

FOR: English and (to some extent) German are already known by many, and there is a huge number of English and German translators which should keep their jobs.

AGAINST: This option imposes the language of a minority to the whole, and it will always be a strange language for all but for the present speakers, never more than a *lingua franca*.

EUROPAIO: It is already the grandmother tongue of the larger part of Europe (those who speak modern IE dialects), and it would become the national language of the Europeans - not merely their *lingua franca* -, coexisting with present-day national and regional languages.

2. More than one natural, living language. This is the present situation, and is obviously the most respectful of the bad options the EU had before the revival of Europaio, but possibly not sustainable in the long term. There are lots of initiatives being currently held, such as the one which states that every European should speak at least three European (wether official or not) languages, apart from their official and co-official ones. Multilingualism seems thus to be the aim of the new Europe, at least in theory, because there are more than twenty official languages which can theoretically be spoken at the

EU Institutions, but only three are the *de facto* official (euphemistically called 'working') languages: English, German and French.

FOR: It respects (theoretically) the linguistic diversity, keeping each language (those officially recognized not to be only *dialects*) alive. Many translators will work thanks to Europeans' needs of understanding each other.

AGAINST: That all Europeans will be able to use their official mother tongues in all European Institutions is a known utopia, just as the assertion that Europeans will speak three official languages apart from their own/s. And, if more than one is to be official, why not just two languages? English and German are obvious selections, but, French? what about Spanish, which is the world's third most-spoken language? and if there should be four official languages, why not Polish and Italian, too, which have a number of speakers similar to Spanish in Europe? and why not Portuguese nor Dutch? and...? It is, then, above all, an unstable system, in which every speaker of a non-official language has a reason to protest against it, and an incentive to look for more spending in their national or regional language.

EUROPAIO: No single European language will be officially (or officiously) classified as better than the others, there is no discrimination of speakers. The budget for translations/interpretations will be minimized. There are no multiple *linguae francae*, but one national language. It is a stable system, where no single speaker has an incentive to ask for anything else. Even those who speak non-IE languages won't have an incentive to choose other options, as the whole Union takes advantage of the new linguistic unity, being thus able to concentrate their educational efforts on their own cultures.

3. One natural, dead language: Latin. The common assertion is that Latin has been the *lingua franca* in Europe for centuries, and that many European countries still teach it, so that it would not be very difficult to use it.

FOR: Latin is a known example of an old European language, used in the Roman Empire and later as *lingua franca* until the 18th century, and it is more or less still used, as Greek, for Academia and Science purposes.

AGAINST: Latin is only the ancestor of the Romance languages, and is thus an Indo-European dialect, such as Germanic or Old Greek. It is also the historical language of the Catholic Church, and Protestants and Orthodox (not to talk about Muslims) wouldn't consider it the best choice. It was a *lingua franca* in the past, as it is now English, and there is no reason to come back to a dead *lingua franca*, when we have a living accepted one.

EUROPAIO: It is the ancestor of all Indo-European languages, not only of the Romance ones. And the concept of Europaio is that of a living language (now living dialects) of a Union, not a *lingua franca* between nations.

4. One artificial language. Some - surprisingly not few - have proposed that known artificial languages, such as Volapük, Esperanto, Ido, Interlingua or Interlingue be used as *lingua franca* in the EU. Again, as in Latin, we have already a living and used *lingua franca*, i.e. English. And if we had to choose another, not living language, Latin would be the one. And, by the way, if we had to choose one of those invented by one man, why not Lojban, or Idiom Neutral, or Glosa, or Novial, etc.? and why not even Quenya, Klingon, or Ewokese?

B. The most frequently encountered criticisms about the *theoretical assumptions of Europaio* are the following, again from more to less important:

I. Some argue that IE III was spoken by a prehistoric society, and that no genuine sample texts are available. It was observed fifty years ago that comparative linguistics was not in the position to reconstruct a single well-formed sentence of IE III.

That is partly true, as it is said about IE III, and we cannot know how it was spoken. However, we are not looking for IE III, the prehistoric language, but for Europaio, a reconstructed system based on the old language, as Hebrew is a modern system based on an old language, from which there are no original written remains. In fact, we know very well how to reconstruct a language that is mother of most of the present-day spoken languages in the world; that was not so easy to do with old, dead Hebrew, as almost the whole system had to be reinvented from texts written centuries after its death, to adapt it to modern needs. To put it simple, while with Europaio we just have to eliminate the thousands of innovations of modern derived languages, with Hebrew one had to reinvent it almost altogether - and they did it well!

What is true, however, is that Europe lacks today a social or political movement similar to that of Zionism one hundred years ago. We have, however, very strong political and economical reasons, with the EU in the edge of becoming a real National entity; as well as new media (such as the Internet and the Television) to make this task still better and at a quicker pace than the Israelis a hundred years ago.

II. Related to the above criticism, there are some assertions about the impossibility of achieving an accurate Europaio from the old languages, as it would be from the romance

languages to derive Vulgar Latin (the spoken Latin, not the artificial and highly stylized, mainly literary, Classic Latin).

This is true. As it is true that there was no accurate Vulgar Latin, but only dialects. Even when Rome was only made of some provinces under a Classic Latin system, different dialects were already spoken, and they split up into dialects, and so on until today. What we could do without having written Latin texts is to reconstruct a language based on the common features of the written remains of old romance languages and the spoken modern languages. The output language would certainly not resemble Classic Latin, but it would reflect better than it the old, common spoken dialectal system. We could then create a language system based on the most successful living dialects: wouldn't it be more natural and easier to learn for speakers of Romance languages than Classic Latin?

Furthermore, compared with Latin (and with any other known language ancestor), we have a huge amount of evidence of lots of IE dialects, dead and alive. We think that, even if we had written tablets of IE III (as with the Anatolian dialects), the choice would have had to be made between a) to reconstruct an IE III based on the known sample texts, or b) to make this same Europaio, based on the information of living and dead languages that we have, so that a more natural, living Europaio could be obtained.

III. Others dislike our approach to the Europaio, as they have their own theories about how the common ancestor should look like.

We firmly believe we include (and will keep including) almost every single reasonable view - whether from scholars or not- about the forms reconstructed, we even try to give alternating possibilities; but we have to take decisions to keep working. Sometimes consensus is just impossible.

IV. A few argue about the possibility of obtaining an earlier Europaio, before the third stage, and make a modern Europaio based on IE II or even on PIE.

Although possible, it would not give any advantage but for a supposed rather simpler system, and it would on the other hand bring a lot of difficulties in the reconstruction. Furthermore, the pretended simplicity of the system could also become a great disadvantage, as many expressions now possible with modern languages would need to be remade by way of lots of figures of speech.

V. Finally, some (generally old) Classical Languages scholars (of Latin and Greek mainly) argue the very existence of the Indo-European language, assuming that strictly a Language is only that which is written and renowned. Thus, for example, for some Spanish Latin scholars, two thousand years ago only Greek and Latin existed in Europe; to talk about other languages is then to speculate. Some also try to find a broader agreement by softening these theories, including other criteria for their individual *lists of real languages*; for example, some include late Germanic and Celtic dialects, because of some stone inscriptions. Similar *lists* are sustained by scholars of different languages, indeed always including the languages more renowned than their own, so that the one they study appears in the *real group* of their *real/speculated languages scheme*.

These are opinions based on a fruitless discussion about what should be considered language, and what not. We think that, if the Europaio becomes the written, national, renowned language of Europe, this criticism will logically disappear altogether, just as the strong initial opposition of some to the revived modern Hebrew is nowadays muted by its success.

Colophon

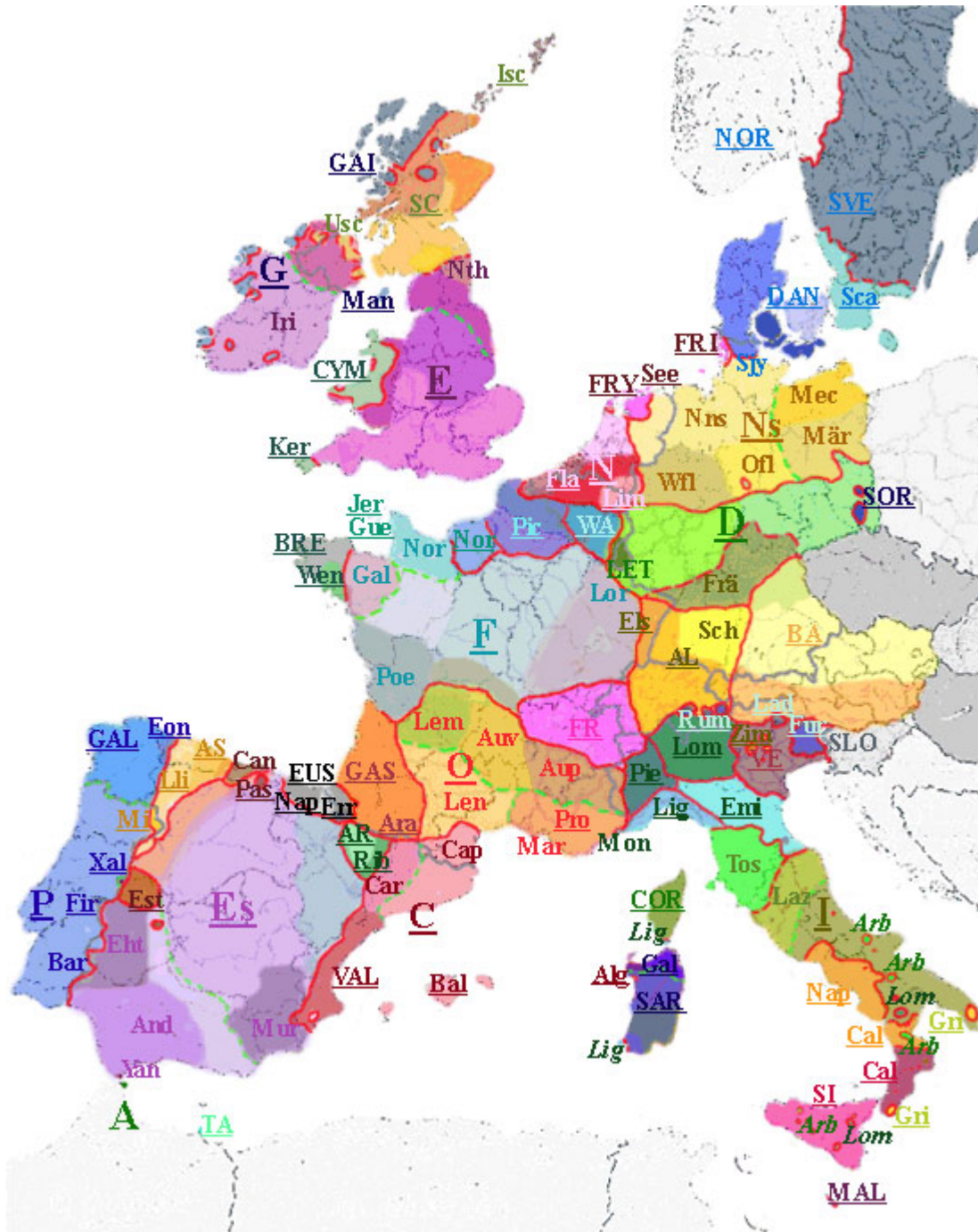
This work is the result of others' work as well as our own experience, and of feedback from various channels. Distinctive covers complement our distinctive approach to the Indo-European reconstruction topics, breathing personality and life into this potentially dry subject.

It is not the aim of this book to be an entertainment, though. For some years I have been studying regional dialects and languages, and I know that especially linguistic unity is destructive with a great cultural heritage as is the linguistic diversity.

This Europaio was initially thought to protect the minority languages and dialects. It is impossible to maintain this diversity if one has to learn three or more official languages (those which have a country supporting them) to be a valuable citizen of the European Union. This goal, which begun more or less accidentally (certainly with good intentions) with the European Year of Languages in 2001, seems to be a growing demand, as some politicians still insist on this goal for the future. In this environment of cruel linguistic competition, some minority language communities have been struggling for more popularity, even trying to obtain official status for them before the EU Institutions, while other communities (those which don't have enough population or wealth to be important at an European scale) have chosen not to compete, and either ignore its cultural diversity - thus competing for their national languages-, or directly oppose further European integration as their way of fighting cultural destruction. While the aim of the EU's measures has been the defense of all European languages, it is clearly undermined by the actual policy of giving an extra-official linguistic hierarchy based on the political relevance of its speakers' community.

I cannot imagine a better linguistic future for Europe than this one: a Europe which respects the multiple regional languages, dialects and speeches; which also gives a special official value to the present official languages, as they are important for external relations and commerce (European languages are spoken mainly outside Europe), and for national communication, and they are an important cultural common heritage; and, above all, an Europe where one language, Europaio, is used by all as a right and as a duty; where modernity means unity under one country and one language; where everybody can travel everywhere inside the European borders without having to use

third-parties' languages, being able to communicate everything in the own language, feeling thus at home everywhere.



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uistic diversity of Western Europe: it includes regional languages, dialects and speeches (the abbreviations used are those of the original language or dialect name). Copyleft © 2006 Dnghu, © 2006 Carlos Quiles [dgoal]

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