

**Metz AUPF Vendredi  
Accueil Denis Rambaud**

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Ladies and Gentlemen,

You have come from thirty countries to partake in this seminar.  
Welcome to Ellinor, Valentina, Janos. They have done so much for the success of our meetings.  
Thanks a lot to the French team of the Aupf and to I2ep of Metz with Jean -Louis Lecocq

During these 3 days, you are going to partake in a new step in adult education in France.

A century ago, with the "Dreyfus Affair", the first Folk High Schools were born to fight Racism and anti-Semitism thanks to the education of the people.

Three hundred UP were created at the time, but most of them disappeared between the two World wars.

For fifteen years, they've known a new development.

Nowadays, there are seventy Folk high Schools (universités populaires) with one hundred thousand adult learners.

**Our aims**

Allow every citizen to be able to know basic skills and to be able to develop and maintain key competences throughout their lifetime  
Both in their job and their active citizen life.

Today the AUPF is a well-established national federation.

We publish a paper, set up a yearly European "colloque",

We've launched a website,

We support the newborn UPs,

We contribute to the lobbying for long life learning society in our country.

We organize meetings on teaching skills and educational methods.

In France with the Aupf

In Europe with the EAEE

We share the same aims :

Ladies and gentlemen,

Welcome to France for sharing ideas and actions in the field of  
Adult education in Europe and for Europe;

Have a pleasant stay, enjoy the workshops.

Don't forget Friday and Saturday evenings.

Our friends from Metz have organized some special entertainment (events ?) for us

Thanks for your attention !

**Bienvenue à vous tous en France à Metz,**

Vous êtes venus de + de 30 pays différents pour participer à cette rencontre.

Bienvenu à Ellinor, Valentina, Janos qui ont beaucoup fait pour la réussite de ces journées.

Et merci à toute l'équipe France et à celle de Metz autour de Jean Louis Lecocq.

### **Une première**

Vous participez pendant ces 3 jours à une nouvelle étape pour l'éducation des adultes en France et en Europe.

Il y a un siècle les premières UP ont été créées pour lutter contre le racisme et l'antisémitisme par l'éducation du plus grand nombre. Elles ont été jusqu'à 300

Dans tout le pays. Mais la plupart disparaissent entre les deux guerres mondiales

### **Nos objectifs**

Aujourd'hui elles renaissent, depuis 15 ans elles sont maintenant plus de 70 accueillant 100 000 auditeurs dans 17 régions de la France.

Nous souhaitons permettre à chacun de développer toutes ses connaissances de bases tout au long de sa vie.

Que cela soit pour améliorer sa culture générale, son employabilité et surtout pour lui permettre d'être un citoyen actif et informé.

Aujourd'hui l'Aupf est une fédération nationale reconnue.

Elle publie un journal,

organise un colloque européen chaque année,

un site web soutient les créations de nouvelles UP,

participe à la promotion de l'éducation tout au long de la vie,

organise des échanges d'expérience pédagogiques et des bonnes pratiques.

### **Notre défi est un défi européen,**

### **Il est particulièrement d'actualité**

En France avec l'Aupf,

En Europe avec l'eaee,

nous militons dans la même direction travailler pour la promotion complète des individus dans toutes leurs dimensions.

Bienvenue à Metz,

Travaillez bien

Mais n'oubliez pas les deux soirées organisées par nos amis de Metz

WELCOME to AUPF

### **A tremendous thirst for knowledge**

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At the beginning of the 20th century a developing thirst for sharing knowledge resulted in the formation of “universités populaires” - informal adult learning organisations. The UP concept developed throughout France where inquisitive people, eager to understand, react and learn used to meet....

Today this increasing demand from French adults to meet, learn and share intelligent interests and leisure activities is met by a lot of adult learning associations.

For those who are willing to share their sparetime in groups with other adults these associations provide a wide range of opportunities in leisure and professional training. Students can take courses either for a specific professional goal or for their own personal self-development.

As anybody can learn at any age and school education is not sufficient for adults to become free and responsible citizens, many people are attracted by our courses and attend our “universités”.

The need to satisfy their demands has led to a real rebirth of our “universités populaires” over the last 10 years.

“Universités populaires” (whether recent or a hundred years old) as well a good number of other associations such as “universités pour tous, du temps libre, rurales , inter-âges” have created the **French Association for Adult Education AUPF (“Association des Universités Populaires de France”)**.

Our aim is to create a network of similar organisations, to promote and strengthen this network, in order to develop in France the most important European movement for lifelong adult learning.

### **Le SAVOIR PARTAGE (shared knowledge)**

**The Universités Populaires of France’s quarterly magazine**

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● Debate

● Learn

● Instruct

● Understand and reflect together

**Information, regular prints**

- bibliographies,
- Trips to discover our different associations and Universités Populaires in France, Switzerland, and Europe,
- Initiatives
- Leaflets, documents about lifelong learning
- conferences

### **A NETWORK FOR YOU**

The members of AUPF share their ideas in order to develop the concept of “shared knowledge”. All of them invite you to join : welcome !

### **Promoting the creation and development of new UPS**

Experienced UPs are ready to help the new ones giving advice, working on projects... MONTAUBAN in the south-east of France, Mulhouse in the east ..... are already providing help..

### **International conferences**

Once a year an international conference is organised with :

- the study of a theme linked to our activities
- a workshop for the leaders : management, ....
- a workshop for the new UPs
- the opportunity to discover the new publications of the different UPs of France and Switzerland
- the workshop of the new Language Teaching Committee

We also care about the friendly atmosphere of our meetings !

### **And Europe !**

The Universités Populaires are the most important body for lifelong adult learning in Europe. Our partnership with equivalent structures all through Europe enables us to welcome each year colleagues from all these countries. Taking part to the activities of AUPF

The AUPF was created by the Universités Populaires ; quite soon other similar associations joined ( "universités rurales", universités du temps libre" ....).

EAEA

**Welcome to France for sharing ideas and action in the field of adult education in Europe and for Europe !**

## **ADULT EDUCATION IN FRANCE**

*AUPF - French Association for Adult Education*

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### **UNIVERSITE POPULAIRE : a “university” for and by adult people learning “for pleasure”**

In France many adult education or adult learning associations are *UNIVERSITES POPULAIRES*: People’s Universities, approximately equivalent to the German “VolksHochSchulen-VHS”. But words are important and we stick to the word *UNIVERSITE* (university) because our associations are places where people can reach a higher level of education and to the word *POPULAIRE* (popular) because they are places for people and by people: in our *universités populaires* everybody is welcome to share knowledge with other people, provided they respect our values.

The French abbreviation for Université Populaire is UP - the pronunciation of these 2 letters in English is exactly equivalent to what we say in France when we get a good news: “*Youpie!*” (French spelling): the idea of pleasure linked to adult learning is always present in our UPs.

Hence the title of the book written by Denis Rambaud and Marc Jeannerat about Adult Education in France and in Switzerland: *APPRENDRE PAR PLAISIR* (learning for pleasure).

### **UNIVERSITES POPULAIRES** are :

- **manifold**: some are large (26,000 learners), some small (150 learners), some recent (GENEVILLIERS near Paris created in 2004), some a hundred years old ( LILLE .....),
- **independent**: living on their own resources with little or no help from the state, regions or cities,
- **administered by voluntary boards of directors.**

Their “teachers” are called *animateurs* which means “people who give life and soul to activities”.

### **AUPF, the French association for adult education**

AUPF was created 15 years ago; there are now 70 members in 17 different parts of France, organizing activities for 100,000 adult learners.

AUPF organizes each year an international conference and Aupf’s Language Certificates issues a quarterly magazine about adult education called *LE SAVOIR PARTAGE* (shared knowledge) and an electronic letter “*Nouvelles de l’éducation*” (news about education).

### **Adult education, a European trend since the very beginning**

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century adult education burst out everywhere in Europe, with GRUNDTVIG in Denmark, but also in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France ... : the idea of adult education went beyond borders, languages, religions, all through Europe.

### **Adult education in France, born with a crisis: *l’affaire DREYFUS***

In France adult education was born with a crisis that tore French society *l’affaire DREYFUS* – the Dreyfus affair- which was not a love affair , but an affair of hatred.

The French officer Dreyfus (born in Mulhouse and having fled to Paris when Alsace became German) was accused of being a spy for Germany and sentenced to convict prison though he was innocent – he was only guilty of being from Alsace and being a Jew. French intellectuals, like the famous writer Emile Zola, reacted and some years later Dreyfus was declared innocent.

This led French intellectuals to fight racism and anti-Semitism helping any adult to become a free, responsible citizen with a critical mind through adult education for everybody, breaking the walls of social classes.

### **The birth of *Universités Populaires* in France.**

The first UP, created in 1899 was called “*La Coopération des Idées*” (cooperation of ideas).

Many disappeared in the following decades for 2 main reasons:

1/ wars eliminated elites,

2/ for pedagogical reasons: university teachers couldn't teach workers – adult education had to find out new ways!

### **Adult education in France and 1968**

In the 60<sup>th</sup> ANDRE MALRAUX, famous writer and politician, created the Ministry for Culture and Education. In his MC "*Maisons de la Culture*" (Houses for Culture) the adult-learning side was somehow left aside. The idea was: culture for everybody by professionals – which didn't meet the challenges of adult education. Adults don't want to be an audience, they want to take part.

So new adult education associations were created in those years.

In 1963 a UP was created in Mulhouse (on the border with Germany and Switzerland): people had seen what our neighbours had done with their "Volkshochulen". Starting with adult language-teaching courses, followed by many other activities in various fields such as arts, personal development, philosophy, literature, sports and leisure activities ... this UP has now 27,000 learners, about 500 "teachers" and is managed by a staff of 18 people.

### **1971 a new law: 1% for adult training and new UPs.**

Jacques Delors, Minister, obliged firms by law to spend 1% of their budgets on training workers and staff. Universités populaires considered it as a real opportunity for them and took part. But they were soon replaced by new professional further training organisms. The law linked adult education to the world of work and economical challenges: the money was spent by the firm for the firm.

In France a split appeared in adult education : on one hand further-training to improve qualification , on the other *Education Populaire* : adult education for people by people, whereas both parts are definitely linked.

### **A real "bloom" of UPs in France in the last 10 years**

These last 10 years an average of 3 or 4 UPs have been created each year. This year there are 4 new projects.

#### **Why?**

Because the world is changing quickly and **UPs are places**:

**1/ where people can share knowledge**, places for active citizenship where we can try and understand our society today – for instance we can find there activities concerning philosophy, some UPs train members of town-councils or citizens to understand the management of a city .....

**2/ where people can try and understand where they come from**, an important component for understanding the world - some UPs work in towns having many problems with inhabitants who don't know anymore where they come from and belong to : they propose for instance workshops about local history, religions ....

**3/ places for action**: they organise basic skills courses, activities in schools to fight racism .....

### **Today an important change in France concerning adult education and another law**

French people have understood that the challenge of life-long learning can't be met if we consider further-training for economic ends and non-formal adult education for individual ends as being opposite : they are complementary.

In April 2004 a new law appeared in France stating *le droit individuel à la formation* - individual right for training, learning.

This national agreement signed by the Government and the trade-unions states that any working adult in France is allowed a learning right of 20 hours per year for 6 years, funded partly by the state, partly by the firm – the training having to take place out of working hours.

This new law offering 120 hours for individual learning to any working adult is considered as a revolution in France, the first step in the official entrance of adult education in our society, of life-long learning for the individual, without any compulsory link to the world of work.

### **Adult education and Europe : let's take part!**

In his speech, when *la Coopération des Idées* was created in 1899, Professor SEAILLES said something like : " let's share knowledge for building a new world, let's act together for building this new world instead of waiting for it to be built for us".

The following day, Georges CLEMENCEAU wrote in the newspaper " l'Aurore " : "*ainsi parla l'homme d'action SEAILLES à des citoyens de Paris qui, ayant proclamé la République, se proposent de la faire*" – " that's what the man of action SEAILLES told the citizens of Paris who, after having proclaimed the Republic, chose to do it ".

In France we bet that adult education and our associations have a part to play in the challenge and we are getting ready to play it – for instance working in the field of organising language-teaching around basic needs and cultural communication, thinking about the use of new technologies....

The idea is somehow the same now as in France in 1899 : after having proclaimed Europe, let's do it and let's do it together through adult education.

**Welcome to France for sharing ideas and action in the field of adult education in Europe and for Europe !**

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the executive board of Aupf:

**Denis Rambaud** - *Président national (UP Mulhouse - Alsace),*

**Edmond Cailleton** - *Trésorier national (UP Ruelle - Charente),*

**Alain Charmillot** - *Secrétaire Général (UP-IDEE Belfort -Franche Comté),*

**Louis Caul-Futy** - *(UP - Haute-Savoie),*

**Michel et Sylvie Marc** - *(UP Bourges -Centre),*

**Marianne Charlot et Marie-Martine Lager** *(UIV-Vichy - Auvergne),*

**Michèle Bompard** - *(ACCES-UP Romans - Rhône-Alpes),*

**Elisenda Segalas-Clérin**- *(UTL Albi - Midi-Pyrenees),*

**Eliane Berthommier** – *(UP Limoges - Limousin*

**Marie-Thérèse Boudenia** *(UP Chalon sur Saône)*

the team of the language teaching committee: *Evelyne Schmitt Troxler, Sylvie Marc et Christian Beschereau*

**THE LANGUAGE TEACHING COMMITTEE**  
**AUPF - Association des Universités Populaires de France**

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**WHO ARE WE ?**

A group of people involved in language teaching for adults (language “teachers” and/or association “managers”) within the AUPF network.

Date of birth of the Committee : November 2001 in Bourges -“Universités Populaires” from 3 countries ( France, Switzerland and Belgium ) were present.

Our aim : anyone involved in language teaching for adults can work, share and exchange with colleagues and friends from other associations of the AUPF.

**2004 : WHERE DO WE STAND ?**

6 meetings have been held so far, during our bi-annual meetings .

We have been working on :

- an inventory of language courses in the French “UPs” (Universités Populaires) : English, Spanish, German, Italian, French as a Foreign Language, other languages like Arabic, Russian, Greek, Chinese, Japanese .... ,
- language teaching methods : different editors of methods have been present at our annual conferences,
- contacts with similar Language Teaching Committees in other countries,
- teacher training with meetings devoted to topics like “ Language teaching and new technologies” or “ Specific language courses in order to prepare a visit abroad ” ,
- sharing and mutualizing experiences and practice through our national magazine “Le Savoir Partagé”,
- AUPF’s Language Certificates : these examinations were created by UP du Rhin 10 years ago - they can be taken in 14 languages after 70 learning hours (1<sup>st</sup> level) and 120 learning hours (2<sup>nd</sup> level) .

**WHAT’S NEXT ?**

AUPF’S Language Certificates.

2 challenges : developing the Certificates throughout the AUPF network and finding solutions for testing speaking and communicating skills.

The Challenge of values.

Constant preoccupations within the Committee are :

- promoting a better knowledge and understanding of foreign languages and cultures,
- adapting language courses to the specific needs of our public,
- sharing and promoting “a certain AUPF spirit “ : both professional and volunteer language teachers cohabit within the French associations and the Language Teaching Committee - they all stand for the same values of shared knowledge and lifelong language learning.

***To be continued***

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**Metz Conference EAEA/AUPF**  
**Saturday 6 November 2004**

**AUPF's  
LANGUAGE TEACHING COMMITTEE**

-----Program :

- Getting to know each other
- A challenge for all : building a multilingual Europe.  
What basic needs ? What for ?
- AUPF' s Language Teaching Committee : Who are we ?  
Two challenges :
  - Down with *school teaching methods*
  - Assessing oral competences
- WORKSHOPS - Learning from each other :  
What basic linguistic needs do adults require within our different countries and different associations both for foreign languages and for our native language(s) ?  
Which cultural demands do these basic linguistic needs imply ?
- What's next ?  
Communicating and sharing our experiences ?  
Together in common training courses ? ( Grundtvig ? The Council of Europe Portfolio ?)

***Chaired by the team of the Aupf's Language Teaching Committee :  
Evelyne Troxler, Sylvie Marc, Christian Beschereau;***

***A workshop in French and English,  
open to all participants of AUPF and EAEA***

***During the Conference :  
Editing houses of foreign language teaching methods for adults (Hueber, Cambridge, Oxford)***