

Abstracts

Fragments sur la tolérance (Fragments on tolerance)

Irina Mavrodin

The meaning of the word «tolerance» has two possible dimensions. The first is a positive connotation mainly imposed by the social and political discourse: attention and respect for other. The second is a rather negative connotation: if I can be tolerant it is because I am superior to other. Thus, tolerance becomes forgiveness. What is even more disturbing is that discordance and confusion may appear in the individual's way of judging reality: deeply and intimately intolerant, the individual may display lying tolerance so as to seem to obey the conventions of modern society.

Keywords: tolerance, superiority, forgiveness, conventional plan, intimate plan

« Nous et les autres. De la diversité » (Tzvetan Todorov's book *Nous et les autres. De la diversité*)

Micaela Gulea

The article presents Tzvetan Todorov's book *Nous et les autres. De la diversité*, insisting on the author's main concerns, namely cultures intersection and judging and interacting with strangers. As far as cultures intersection is concerned, Todorov concludes that there cannot be a hierarchy of cultures, but it is legitimate to compare them so as to decide what can be accepted and what should be rejected. The second concern is reflected in the ten travellers' portraits the author proposes and which should be of interest for the experts of intercultural communication.

Keywords: Todorov, comparison between cultures, travellers' portraits, intercultural communication

Tolérance et intolérance. Le cas Flaubert (Tolerance and intolerance. The case of Flaubert)

Rodica Capotă

Flaubert's correspondence, mirror of a creator and of artistic beliefs, is the place where the *tolerance/intolerance* of this author and theorist of writing can be seen. Flaubert is tolerant with those who follow his advice, who read a lot, who refine their writings, those who are modest and hardworking, with those who take great writers as models to follow. However, besides this tolerance, he shows limited tolerance and even intolerance to lack of style, of talent, of literary know how. His tolerance is in fact an appeased desire for perfection.

Keywords: tolerance, theory, practice, style, perfection

**La jungle – la dose quotidienne d’excès
(The jungle – the daily dose of excess)**

Aurora Liiceanu

The article deals with the failure to know and follow the proper rules of interpersonal behaviour which is characteristic for the Romanian public space, mostly in the field of communication. The author examines several examples taken from the fields of retail, television and political communication and concludes that Romania is at the moment « an excess mode, a mode where everyone attacks and is attacked, without any respect for the rules ».

Keywords: behaviour rules, interpersonal communication, media, political communication

**Tolérance (indulgence) ou intolérance (sévérité) ? Dilemmes du professeur de langues ... en miettes
(Tolerance (forgiveness) or intolerance (severity)? Fragments of the language teacher’s dilemmas)**

Micaela Gulea

The article reviews the reason why a teacher should be tolerant or intolerant with the learners’ language errors and concludes that the best attitude is that of teacher’s moderation and flexibility.

Keywords: language errors, tolerance, intolerance, flexibility

Gender Divide. The Long Road to Tolerance

Mariana Nicolae

The present article will explore tolerance towards gender issues and the importance of various attitudes of the non-native English language professional in Romania. The author raises more questions than offers answers. However, the author tries to clarify some concepts related to gender and tolerance, with a focus on business communication. It also looks at sexism in language suggesting ways to avoid it by using gender neutral language. The article concludes that although gender-neutral language is an advance towards acceptance of gender equality in some areas of language use, it does not challenge the underlying conventions which make masculine gender the norm.

Key words: gender roles, sexist language, tolerance, gender-neutral language

Tolerance and Deliberative Democracy

Adela Raluca Popa

Drawing upon the concepts of morality envisaged by J. Rawls and J. Habermas, the paper comments on the principles of a just society seen through the lens of reasonable pluralism, tolerance, deliberative democracy and consensus. As people became moral during the process of discussion and agreement (Habermas), deliberation is tremendously

important in a democratic society in which citizens should cooperate/discuss in order to establish together the principles of justice, while any disagreement should be integrated into a space of tolerance. Habermas views discourse in relation with rationality and makes a clear-cut distinction between the discourse that aims at a common understanding and harmonization and the discourse in which participants try to achieve their individual goals. People come together in a society through the use of a common language and they understand the meaning of a sentence when they know under which conditions it is true (situatedness – which is also important in understanding language and its relation to the society). Stability and legitimacy are elements of an effective society where institutions and norms are legitimate if the citizens would freely consent to them. In terms of consent, it is essential to differentiate between compromise and consensus because the former is possible only if the people are not equal. Conversely, Habermas' version of the consent theory is the one in which legal authority has its roots in the process of communication, whereas Rawls appeals to the fundamental moral powers of the citizens.

Keywords: Haberman, Rawls, tolerance, deliberative democracy, consent

**Immigration, droits de l'homme et construction européenne
(Immigration, human rights and European construction)**

Maria da Conceição Pereira Ramos

Unfortunately, the European Union is confronted with many populist and xenophobic movements conveying the chimera of invasion and thus affecting mobility in and towards Europe. There is a strong climate of intolerance towards Gypsies in countries such as: Portugal, Spain, Italy, Finland, Austria, while the African immigrants, mainly those from the Maghreb, are a frequent target in Belgium, Spain, France, Italy, Austria, The Netherlands, etc. Consequently, the member states of the European Union should find a strategy of social cohesion to guarantee integration in the labour market for immigrants, ethnic minorities, as well as other disadvantaged groups and people.

Keywords: immigration, discrimination, racism, intolerance, human rights

**Le moi fictionnel et ses excès de tolérance ou d'intolérance
(The fictional self and its excesses of tolerance and intolerance)**

Nina Ivanciu

The article starts by defining the word « tolerate » and its word family and by identifying the areas where these notions apply, such areas being both external (politics, philosophy, law or psychosocial) and internal (individual subjectivity and its perceptions, desires or chimeras). It continues by discussing the five steps of tolerant manifestations described by Paul Ricoeur (« L'usure de la tolérance et la résistance de l'intolérable »). Finally, the article puts forward the idea of a close connection between the *interpshychic* degree of tolerance/intolerance and the *intrapshycic* one. In other words, the article speaks about the *impact* of the individual's deep reality (emotions, beliefs, attitudes, desires, needs, frustrations, etc) on his/her way of dealing with others in the outside. This assumption is supported by the analysis of the fictional universes of two French writers, Nathalie Sarraute et Albert Camus.

Keywords: tolerance, intolerable, private scene, duplicity of the ego, immoderation of the ego, constraints of the forbidden

We Need More Humanity, More Care, More Love

Alexander Hollinger

The article starts from a statement made by William Golding in his Nobel Prize for literature acceptance speech and sets out to prove that Golding expressed a similar credo in all his novels that were meant to inculcate a moral to the reader—which the paper goes on to identify as fables. By referencing *Lord of the Flies*, *The Inheritors*, *Pincher Martin*, *Free Fall*, and *The Spire*, the article examines the methods Golding uses in order to get the reader engaged, with “shock tactics” as a key component and innocence as a leitmotif in Golding’s novels. As such, a common thread is easily identifiable in his works, namely the fables’ moral: selfishness and egotistical tendencies are the central elements of all forms of dehumanization.

Keywords: William Golding, *Lord of the Flies*, human nature, fables, ethical values.

On Forgiveness and Tolerance

Brândușa Prepelîță-Răileanu

Arising from the very nature of the human being, tolerance is nowadays a more concept than it was in the past. The period between 1500-1700 witnessed a steady expansion of intolerance, marked by the executions for heresy or the hatred of the witches and Jews. In this period of religious unrest, Shakespeare wrote *The Merchant of Venice*, a play in which the trial between Antonia and Shylock reaches a dramatic climax signaled, on one hand, by the conflict between good (love, tolerance) and evil (hatred) and, on the other hand, the conflict between good (justice and law) and a greater good (mercy or the law of love and tolerance). The problems of the usury and free landing, enemy and friend, safety and risk, giving and forgiving, justice and mercy are all bound by the formulation of the flesh bond and its resolution in the trial. In *The Merchant of Venice*, particularly in the trial scene, Shakespeare created a refined ideology about tolerance and human choices. The values for which Shylock stands in the trial are associated with the New Testament’s condemnation of ambition, covetousness and hypocrisy of the Pharisees. In contrast, Portia, the “*puer senex*” (the individual who combines in one person the best of youth and the best of age), plays “the devil’s advocate” to teach Shylock, and us, the need for the grace of tolerance.

Keywords: forgiveness, tolerance, Shakespeare, *Merchant of Venice*, trial

Tolerance – A Rewriting

Sabina Stănilă

Dealing with the issue of tolerance, the article sets out to prove that the concept of ‘tolerance’ is always closely followed by its counterpart, thus the former remains an unattainable utopian model. Regardless of the countless evils with which intolerance has stained the fabric of human history, it appears that even the noblest individuals find themselves plagued by it at one point or another in their existence. Focusing on Stefan

Zweig's *Castellio* (translated into Romanian as *A Cry Against Death*) and Julian Barnes's *A History of the World in 10 1/2 Chapters*, the paper uses narrative logic (i.e. the logic intrinsic to written stories) to make a point about the manner in which tolerance and intolerance are interwoven within the very fabric of human nature.

Keywords: tolerance/intolerance, conventional history, deconstructing the official truth, doubt, sacred beliefs.

**Le monde judéo-maghrébin aux prises avec l'intolérance « La Statue de Sel »
d'Albert Memmi**

**(The Judeo-Maghrebian world struggling with intolerance in Albert Memmi's
« Statue de Sel »)**

Brândușa Steiciuc

In his novel *La Statue de sel* (1953) the Tunisian author Albert Memmi advocates for tolerance and understanding to his francophone readers. This article examines the originality of this novel which deals with intolerance towards the Jew/the intellectual/ the poor through the character of Alexandre Mordechaï Benillouche, offspring of a Jewish and Berber mixed family. He is the victim of a triple cleavage, alienated from his family and culture, but also from the anti-Semite social environment in which he grows up, as well as from the French colonizer's culture.

Keywords: Albert Memmi, Maghrebian novel, intolerance, cleavage, Jewish culture, Berber culture

**Le Pharisien et le Pêcheur – deux hypostases de l'intolérance et de la tolérance dans
l'œuvre de François Mauriac**

**(The Pharisee and the Sinner – two hypostases of intolerance and tolerance in
François Mauriac's works)**

Rodica Stoicescu

The pharisee and the sinner are two antithetic existential experiences of sin. As a frequent theme in Mauriac's work, the opposition pharisee/sinner emphasizes the reversal of values for the religious conscience. The pharisee is the symbol of the Old Rule imposing to Christians an intolerant attitude towards sin – their own or those of others. The sinner, as a tragic conscience, is saved by the New Law, the law of Love whose fundamental commandment is mercy, the main value of tolerance, leading to interior freedom.

Keywords: tolerance, intolerance, sinner, pharisee, tragic conscience

A Survey on Recent E-Sources on Tolerance in Intercultural Communication

Yolanda Mirela Catelty, Mihaela Blându

The article aims to provide a range of useful e-resources to everyone interested in grasping the notion of "interculturality." Emphasis is placed on the concept of "tolerance" and all its interpretations, ramifications, and implications nowadays, especially in academia. Given that the market for electronic resources is growing exponentially, as is the public's interest in technology, the study of intercultural

phenomena must also fall in line. The paper argues that, due to increased interconnectivity, the world has grown smaller and, as a result, forging bonds with geographically distant individuals has become routine. Referencing various conferences and websites on this very topic, the article provides a multitude of palpable examples of how intercultural communication is a compulsory competence in an increasingly multicultural and globalized world.

Keywords: e-sources, tolerance, intercultural communication, globalization, interculturality, multiculturalism

**Le pluralisme culturel canadien – un modèle de tolérance pour l'Europe
(Canadian cultural pluralism – a model of tolerance for Europe)**

Margareta Gyurcsik

In Canada, there is a gap between the extremely rich reflection on multiculturalism and the implementation of this theory, which sometimes causes serious issues. Like the entire North-American continent, Canada is a land of immigration now forced to find the balance between two contradictory trends: « identity tension », namely the exacerbating differences, and « postmodern burst », i.e. erasing differences. In Quebec there are two ways of thinking and writing about the cultural identity of this French speaking island. The first is the modern perspective consisting of a radical identity quest which states that the inhabitants belong in America and not in France as it stated before that the inhabitants belonged in France and not in England. The second is a tolerant postmodern perspective expressed in literature by the substitution of the great theme of exploring the open and unlimited space by the description of a closed space, a house, picture *en abyme* of Canada, where people manage to live surrounded by others.

Keywords: multiculturalism, identity quest, belonging in America/belonging in France, French Quebec, tolerance

**Communication, éducation et interculturalité. Vers une éducation à la tolérance
(Communication, education and interculturalism. Towards an education for
tolerance)**

Natalia Ramos

Before opening to otherness, the individual has the natural tendency to interpret the reality starting from his/her own cultural criteria and models, which is an important barrier to intercultural communication. The way we see the other or another culture is always subjective and saturated by ethnocentric judgments, prejudice and stereotypes which become obstacles to communication, knowledge and understanding. It is the task of intercultural pedagogy to educate people for tolerance and understanding between individuals, groups and cultures.

Keywords: otherness, ethnocentrism, stereotypes, intercultural communication, mutual understanding

