



EUROLANG tingles off

EURO 2012, the European Football Championship in Poland and the Ukraine is one of the biggest sport events of the world. Thousands of fans from many nations will come to the two host countries. EUROLANG is a language project linked to the EURO 2012 and co-funded by the European Commission. The goal is to create more awareness for the Polish and Ukrainian language within Europe and to give football fans an opportunity to learn bits of the languages and get an even greater football experience together with fans from the host countries.

Football and Language

„Alé Alé le bleu“ and „Forza Italia“ are two of many phrases which most football fans would understand even though they have not visited a French or Italian language course. As a football fan you are confronted with pieces of foreign languages at every international match you visit. It is communication, though, that bridges the lack of understanding between fans from different countries. Language knowledge deepens and strengthens this understanding.

The EUROLANG project tingled off in January 2008 and will end in December 2009. During this period an online-platform will be set up in which thorough Polish and Ukrainian introductory language courses will be as well included as a culture guide to the Polish and Ukrainian cities where the matches during the EURO 2012 will be played.

The game is on

When we watch a football match, things we would never have thought to be possible can happen right in front of us: battles which are full of drama and excitement are being fought on the pitch, tricks we never even dreamt to be possible are being performed as if it was the easiest thing in the world. During the 90 minutes a match lasts, we, the fans, are filled with joy,

anxiety, disappointment. We allow ourselves to express our deepest emotions through tears, through yelling, the showing of anxiety, amazement, sadness, or nervousness before a penalty kick...

But for the fans football is not just a scenario of emotions connected to the match. Football also contributes significantly to the re-establishment of bonds of solidarity broken by cultures of alienation or separation. It furthermore provides new views of countries we did not know much about before. With a basic knowledge of the Polish and the Ukrainian language we, the fans, possess an important tool which will help us to gain a deeper and wider understanding of our hosts' culture at the EURO 2012.

A game out of town

Football is about socialising, about getting together and the sharing of exciting moments. So, obviously, it is not only the scenario taking place at the stadium that we enjoy when we go to the EURO, it is also everything taking place before and after the match. It is exchanging views with other fans on the match, it is about sharing (football-) experiences with the people in the pub or at the hotel. It is about getting in touch and enjoying moments that might mark us for the rest of our lives.

EUROLANG will enable fans all over the world to learn Polish and Ukrainian online. On the online platform there are also tips on what to experience outside the stadium: good restaurants, cafes, sight-seeing places, etc.

See for yourself on

www.EuroLang2012.com



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EUROLANG aims to strengthen the understanding between football fans from different nations. The connector between nations is language. The EUROLANG-team aims at disseminating the knowledge on Polish and Ukrainian language and culture before the EURO2012 in Poland and Ukraine.

During the project period the EUROLANG-team will organize a range of dissemination activities where you can take part. The activities are posted on the EUROLANG homepage.

Get in touch!

The EUROLANG team consist of:



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