

## Annual report 2015

### Review of 2015

The European Sign Language Centre (ESLC) was founded in 2009 as a non-political, non-profit organization based in Örebro, Sweden. ESLC works with accessibility issues for sign language and is running the world's largest web-based translation tool for sign language, [www.spreadthesign.com](http://www.spreadthesign.com), established in 27 countries.

Production-wise, there are now over 300 000 signs in Spreadthesign.com, which is amazing.



*Picture from our meeting in Madrid.*

### The organization

The organization 'European Sign Language Center' (ESLC) has a main objective to manage, improve and develop Spread the sign. ESLC is a non-profit organization where most work is done by unpaid volunteers. The association has a few employees whose salaries come from the various projects. ESLC are hiring mainly deaf people and sees this as an important part of the work of Spread the sign.

The project manager for the Spread the sign is Lydell Thomas Olsen. He is also the person behind the idea of this web based sign language dictionary. Thomas is a volunteer of the association, and therefore he doesn't get any salary from the organization.

## **Organization work**

After the years of problems with the project T3, the organization has this year made some redistribution of personnel.

Dennis Lennartsson is dismissed at his own request.

Our programmers Tomas Bäckman (Allavet) has left at his own request.

Jonatan Saari is our newly hired programmer.

Our editor Edona Musliu is laid off on grounds of redundancy.

Other changes are that we have a new office. This is the Älvtomtagatan 12 in Örebro and we share the premises with the company Devmito.

## **Projects during the year**

During the year, we had started several projects. Spreadthesign consisted of the following:

### **Leonardo Network - The EU Commission in Brussels.**

This project involved 15 partners. A final meeting for this project was held in Madrid, Spain.

### **Leonardo Partnership - University and College Council.**

This project involved 12 partners. With this project, we took the opportunity to travel to the meeting in Madrid, so that all partners could be there, which meant that we were about 100 people at the meeting. The project was completed in September.

### **Erasmus + - University and College Council.**

A three-year EU project with 12 participating countries. Croatia is our new partners. Two people from Croatia visited the studio in Sweden, where we recorded about 13,000 videos that are currently editing.

### **Leonardo Russia - Swedish Institute.**

This project was completed in the fall with the final report, which Russia has reached the level of 15,000 signs / words.

### **Leonardo Ukraine / Belarus - Swedish Institute.**

This one-year project started in November.

*Besides Spreadthesign, we have also been involved in other projects, such as:*

### **Open - Leonardo projects TOI - Spanish partners.**

The project aims to create educational materials for deaf people on how to learn English. Partner countries are Sweden, Italy, Cyprus, Poland, Spain. The project also has international signs. This has been a two-year project is now finished.

### **Sign MediaSmart - Leonardo projects TOI - Wolverhampton University.**

This is a role-playing game for school program in media. The teaching material also contains a dictionary of media terms. This has been a two-year project and is now finished. Participating partners are: Austria, Italy, England, Sweden.

### **Merit project - the Swedish Inheritance Fund.**

<http://www.arvsfonden.se/projekt/merit-projekt>

We are now working with the support of the Swedish Inheritance Fund to create a web-based teaching material in sign language, for the convenience of students with language disorders, hearing and even hearing young people to achieve the objectives of the course Swedish sign language for the hearing steps 1-3.

### **Meetings during the year**

We have participated in the following meetings:

**January** Sign Media - Turin, Italy

**February** Leonardo Partnership - Klagenfurt, Austria

**June** Open - Nicosia, Cyprus / Leonardo Network - Madrid, Spain / Leonardo Partnership - Madrid, Spain

**December** OPEN - Rome, Italy

### **Response**

We have had great media impact during the year in the media across Europe thanks to the tours that each partner in the network project conducted nationally.

During the year our Estonian team received an award for winning the European Language Label, 2015.













### **Statistics**

The statistics from Google Analytics (only referring to our web users)

[www.spreadthesign.com](http://www.spreadthesign.com)

Sessioner <b>1 011 913</b>	Användare <b>570 045</b>	Sidvisningar <b>1 649 952</b>
Sidor/session <b>1,63</b>	Gen. sessionslängd <b>00:01:58</b>	Avvisningsfrekvens <b>74,70 %</b>
% nya sessioner <b>54,98 %</b>		

Land ?	Förvärv		
	Sessioner ? ↓	% nya sessioner ?	Nya användare ?
	<b>1 011 913</b> % av det totala antalet: 100,00 % (1 011 913)	<b>55,03 %</b> Gen. för vy: 54,98 % (0,09 %)	<b>556 813</b> % av det totala antalet: 100,09 % (556 304)
1.  United States	<b>184 140</b> (18,20 %)	69,29 %	127 582 (22,91 %)
2.  Spain	<b>94 621</b> (9,35 %)	35,48 %	33 572 (6,03 %)
3.  Germany	<b>75 928</b> (7,50 %)	53,85 %	40 886 (7,34 %)
4.  Russia	<b>61 247</b> (6,05 %)	38,06 %	23 311 (4,19 %)
5.  Sweden	<b>54 272</b> (5,36 %)	59,25 %	32 156 (5,78 %)
6.  Poland	<b>49 590</b> (4,90 %)	51,51 %	25 543 (4,59 %)
7.  Czech Republic	<b>47 498</b> (4,69 %)	41,19 %	19 564 (3,51 %)
8.  Ukraine	<b>45 754</b> (4,52 %)	48,88 %	22 363 (4,02 %)
9.  Italy	<b>43 512</b> (4,30 %)	40,82 %	17 760 (3,19 %)
10.  United Kingdom	<b>41 431</b> (4,09 %)	55,27 %	22 898 (4,11 %)

## Summary

During the year, we put a lot of energy to quality work. The year has been filled with meetings, intensive productions, applications, and an ever-growing global network. We have been able to significantly reduce costs for our productions around the world for the benefit of availability.

Unfortunately, the association is still suffering financially due to the project T3. However, we see that it probably will brighten in 2016 or 2017 and we struggle to get back on our feet.

*This is a copy of the original.*

