

#### Overview 2019

ETC was founded in 2009 and is a non-political, non-profit association based in Örebro. ETC works with sign language accessibility issues and runs the web-based sign language translation tool, www.spreadthesign.com, with establishments in 39 countries. In terms of production, there are now over 500,000 characters in spreadthesign.com and the number is increasing all the time.

## **Organization**

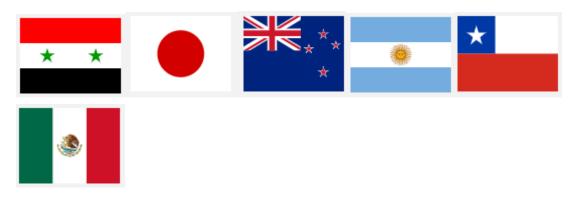
The organization 'European Sign Language Center' (ESLC) has a main objective to manage, improve and develop Spread the sign. ESLC is a non-profit organization where most work is done by unpaid volunteers. The association has a few employees whose salaries come from the various projects. ESLC are hiring 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 Thomas Lydell. 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.

# The work of the organization

The Board looks as follows: Chairman is Robert Byström while Cora Samoila is wide chairman, Thomas Lydell is treasurer, Helena Andersson Wikström and Mikael Sundberg are members.

We have had visits to the studio of two Argentine actors, two Chilean actors, one Syrian actor, two Mexican actors, two Japanese actors and one actor from New Zealand.



This has enabled us to produce lots of new videos with signs from the different sign languages of these countries and make them available at Spreadthesign.com

## Project during the year

• Erasmus + - University and University Council.

A three-year EU project with 4 participating countries. Where we will make available the socialhaptic signals for interpreters and deafblind people in Europe

• Erasmus + - University and University Council.

A three-year EU project with 5 participating countries. Where we will get new sign languages for Greece, Bulgaria, Cyprus and Syria.

• Erasmus + - University and University Council.

A three-year EU project where we will build 360-degree photographs with hot spots linked to the database of character videos, for the vocational gymnasium. As many as 18 countries are participating in this big EU project.

• Leonardo Ukraine, Russia and Belarus - Swedish Institute.

A project where Belarus, Russia and Ukraine are given the opportunity to participate in our Erasmus-360 project

# International and national meetings during the year

April, meeting in Sofia Bulgaria in project Syria

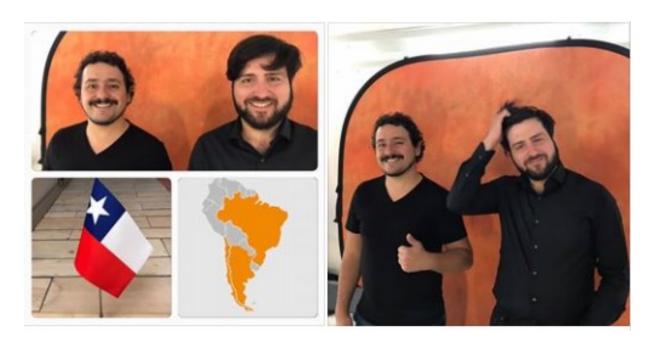
May, meeting in Porto Portugal in project 360

September, meeting in Kinik Turkey in project Syria

October, meeting in Presov Slovakia in project 360

In September, the association sponsored EFSLI's annual conference, which took place in Malmö, where sign language interpreters from all over Europe participated.

We also had an information and dissemination meeting, nationally for Sweden, together with Örebro municipality in October in Örebro. There were all deaf organizations, various universities and schools for interpreters and deaf people.



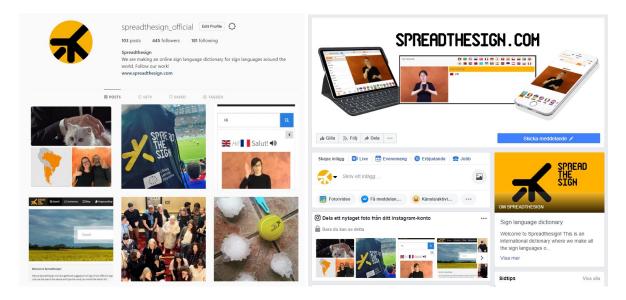
Our two actors from Chile in our studio in May 2019



EFSLI conference in Malmö in September 2019

### Response

Our Facebook page and Instagram account are growing with more followers.



#### **Statistics**

The statistics come from Google Analytics and refer only to our web users at www.spreadthesign.com



