



Linguistic Justice

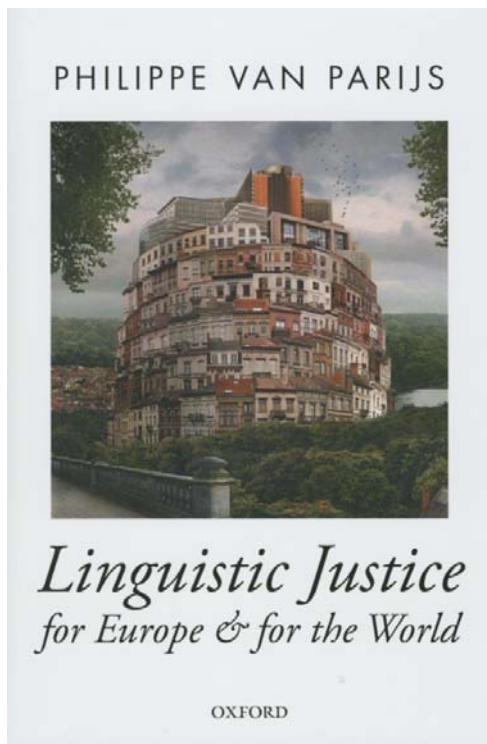
Distributive Consequences of the Global Spread of English and Arguments for the Territorial Protection of Other Languages

Workshop and book presentation with Philippe van Parijs (Université catholique de Louvain)

Organised by Rainer Bauböck (SPS)

2 March 9:30 – 12:30 Seminar Room 2, Badia Fiesolana

Registrations with: Monika.Rzemieniecka@eui.eu



In his recent book *Linguistic Justice for Europe and for the World*, Philippe van Parijs argues that the global spread of English is irresistible and should also not be resisted but promoted. A world-wide lingua franca facilitates democratic deliberations about global justice across international borders. However, it also creates undeserved advantages of English native speakers who do not have to bear the costs of learning the lingua franca and who enjoy greater job opportunities in transnational labour markets. Since languages are associated with collective identities, it is also unfair if English crowds out other languages. Parity of esteem justifies therefore the territorial protection of national languages.

Philippe van Parijs' book is a pathbreaking attempt to address the challenges of linguistic diversity as well as the global rise of English from a normative perspective of egalitarian social justice and democracy.

Oxford Political Theory, 320 pages, 978-0-19-920887-6, September 2011

Keynote: Philippe van Parijs

Commentaries: Monica Andriescu (SPS), Rainer Bauböck (SPS), Peter Kraus (University of Helsinki, tbc.), Joseph Lacey (SPS), Andrei Stavila (SPS), Bruno De Witte (GGP), George Vasilev (University of Melbourne)