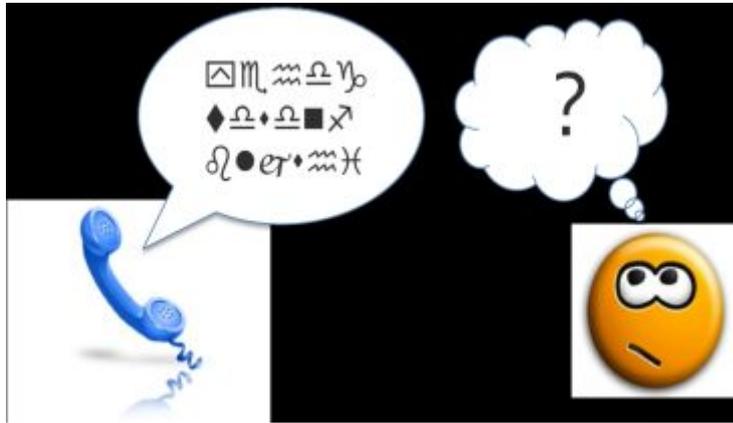


## The magical world of 23 languages

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### TermCOORD unveils its chest of linguistic treasures



"A magic world of 23 languages" (or should we say "a magical world"? ;-)) is the message greeting visitors to the [website](#) of TermCOORD.

You may have seen this in the DG TRAD's Newsletter sent on 29 October, but what a good idea from the TermCOORD to invite us to visit its eye-opening website!

Of course if you don't like languages then don't visit the website, but if you're interested in discovering for yourself some of the

various linguistic quirks of different languages (being a translator is not compulsory!), you will be in for a treat.

When you arrive at the homepage of TermCOORD's "magic world", you can enter the land of IATE ("Inter-Active Terminology for Europe"), the EU inter-institutional terminology database, the land of Proactive Terminology, providing real-time definitions of specific terms in every language, or consult Language Specific Material for each of the Parliament's languages.

But let's be honest, you probably won't do that if you are not a translator or terminologist. So what will appeal to those with a budding interest in languages?

Click on the link entitled "Curious?" on the left side of the page. It seems those at TermCOORD would like to "make you more curious" and "have you more involved in its initiative to exchange and discuss up-to-date, strange, appealing, weird, funny, terminologically interesting terms you may currently use and you may have encountered when reading newspapers, magazines or books, watching TV, during conversations with colleagues or friends, overhearing people on the road..." (Editor's note: couldn't the bizarre words you come across in resolutions also be analysed here?)

Have you encountered a weird word? Don't be selfish: share it with your colleagues!

They invite you to submit any term you consider worth sharing and analysing, and voice your opinion about the terms already proposed. To do so, you have the choice between the sub-sections '[Did you know that?](#)' and '[Terms in the News](#)'.

One entry already there concerns the MOUSE – the animal and the thing we have in our hand right now, the computer mouse. I quote: "its name certainly came from the cable it once had, that was like a queue. But what plural do you think this computer mouse has? MICE? Not at all!!! MOUSES..." So, is MOUSE just one word??

However, Newshound's new stagiaire is adamant that native speakers do call a group of mouses (I mean PC thing) mice. So I now no longer know who to believe!

Perhaps I should consult Saint Gotteschalk, who, according to [saints.sqpn.com](#), is the Patron Saint of linguists and translators... (this website tells you everything you need to know about all 6,336 Patron Saints).

And so if you're a real language freak, you may even subscribe to Terminology News (Have you done it yet André?),

meaning you will then be notified whenever a new post is uploaded onto the Term website (simply click on the Submit button in the left hand side of TermCOORD's website).