

Lozanov International Trainers Association

Annual Report

1. Creation of LITA

The Lozanov International Trainers Association (LITA) was formed on the 26th of March 2006 in Sofia, Bulgaria. The founder members of the Association were certified Suggestopedic trainers who had been invited by Dr. Lozanov to attend a meeting in Sofia to discuss the way forward for Suggestopedia. The names and details of the founder members appear at the end of the LITA Protocol.

2. The Board Members

The founder members decided to delegate executive powers to The Board whose members would be as follows :

Chair	Lisa Hartmark
Vice-Chair	Ioan Talfryn
Secretary	Angeles Chavez
Treasurer	Franz Ludescher

Regional Representatives

America (North, Mid, South)	Gloria Marie Caliendo
Australia and New Zealand	Kaz Hagiwara
East Asia	Setsuko Iki
Europe (x 3)	Radostina Mihaleva, Lydia Dachkova, Czeslawa Rudawska

During the course of the last 2 years Lydia Dachkova and Czeslawa Rudawska left The Board and Zlatotsveta Doumeva was co-opted as another European representative.

3. The Protocol

In order to comply with legal requirements The Board produced a Protocol which is the governing document of the Association. It stipulates the aims and objectives of the Association and the procedures which have to be followed by the members. The Association was registered in Norway as a charitable Association on 25.07.2007.

4. Board Meetings

Board meetings have been held on a regular basis (roughly every month) since the Association's inception. Minutes have been kept of the proceedings. We outline below the main topics pursued over the last 2 years and progress in those specific fields.

i) Creation of LITAs constitution

The Lozanov International Trainers Association (LITA) was formed on the 26th of March 2006 in Sofia, Bulgaria. A board was elected to lead the association. The first task of the board was to make a Protocol for LITA. We acquired a prototype from the Norwegian authorities and from that one, we made our own Protocol. It was a long process to find the right platform and articles for LITA's work. We had many meetings with discussions about the content of the constitution. We also had to register all the board members with the Norwegian authorities. The board members had to send a copy of their passport with a stamp from a notary or a judicial body in their homeland. This procedure took a long time and finally on 25.07.2007 LITA was registered as an international charitable Association with the organization number 990 691 509 Etterstadgata 14b, 0658 Oslo, Norway. The LITA board has monthly telephone meetings organized by a Norwegian company. The board has had 21 meetings altogether. Kaz Hagiwara has been functioning as secretary in the absence of Angeles Chávez due to illness.

ii) Membership Eligibility and Fee

All the trainers who are trained by Dr. G.Lozanov or trained by one of his trainers can be members. In addition the board can grant honorary membership, including life membership, to members who have contributed many years to the association or to the work of the trainers. The board proposes that the honorary members of LITA will have all rights and duties as other members except that :

- 1) they are exempt from paying the membership fee
- 2) they have no right to vote
- 3) they are not able to hold office in LITA.

The board has agreed to propose an additional paragraph to state 1) eligibility for LITA board and 2) a system for renewing the membership of the board.

The proposal from the board about membership fee: LITA membership fee is determined according to the economic category of a member's residential region because: LITA would like to invite members from all regions in the world.

LITA would not want to discriminate against members who live in a lower economic region. The membership fee is linked to the previous year's World Bank index of world economy.

The fee will be annually announced to the members before the due date of payment.

iii) Creation of Website

On behalf of the Association, Kaz has purchased a domain name in October the 29th 2006, and it has been registered as an active domain name since November the 1st 2006. The domain name <lozanovassociation.com> is now ready for the home to LITA official web site.

Initially we discussed the possibility of entrusting the development of the website to Sebastian Rudawski, a fervent supporter of Dr. Lozanov's work. Unfortunately this was not eventually possible due to a family bereavement. We then discussed a number of other possibilities and eventually decided to work with a company in Norway. Ioan and Lisa met in Oslo and produced a contents template. The company has created a number of layout examples and the board has discussed preferences. The company is expected to renew progress on the development of the website in the near future.

iv) Dr. Lozanov's Revised Book about Suggestopedia

Dr. Lozanov will talk about his revised book, SUGGESTOPEDIA-DESUGGESTIVE PEDAGOGY : COMMUNICATIVE METHOD ON THE LEVEL OF THE HIDDEN RESERVES OF THE HUMAN MIND , which has been prepared for the teacher trainers to use in their trainings."

v) LITA logo

LITA - LOZANOV INTERNATIONAL) TRAINERS ASSOCIATION

A **logo** is a graphical element that forms a trademark or commercial brand. To design a Logo for such a complex idea as Suggestopedia wasn't an easy task. It all started in November 2007.

I addressed Georg Vith, one of the Art teachers at our Pedagogical High school in Feldkirch. Mr Vith was enthusiastic about that idea from the beginning. (He had just designed the LOGO for our High school).

I told him a lot about Suggestopedia, its main assumptions and background information.

He designed a Logo that was both simple and full of metaphors at the same time.



The three circles (balls) represent the three laws of Desuggestopedia:

- golden section
- love
- freedom of personality

• **The global is in the part, the part in the global**

- The structure (different shades) in the rolling line
- The rolling line and the three balls represent the global and the parts

• **Golden section**

- The association's name and the logo are in the golden section
- The balls and the rolling line are in the golden section

• **Art**

- This logo is painted by hand and represents art
- each circle is unique

• **Flexibility and motion**

- The rolling line can also be associated with flexibility and keeping the circles in balance
(bouncing them up and down)
- everything is in motion
- the balls are not completely round - motion

• **Harmony**

- the line in the middle is balanced and represents harmony

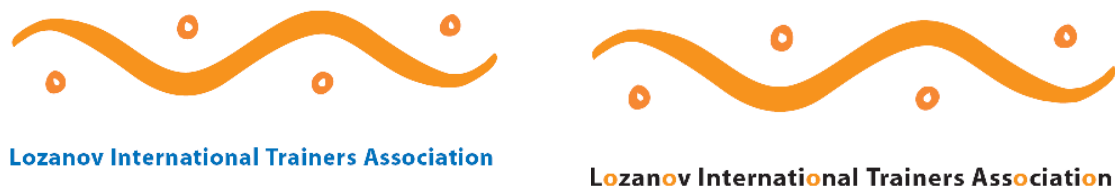
We discussed this LOGO several times at our Board meetings

Some thoughts of the Board Members:

- looks like a face; the endings of the middle line are pointing downwards – they give the impression of sadness
- Some preferred to have it coloured orange (The colour “orange” may indicate: aliveness, creativity, warmth, social, future)

- Dr. Lozanov missed any indicator of the results you can achieve with Suggestopedia in the LOGO
- Dr. Lozanov wanted to have another “Law” included in the LOGO – The part is in the whole and the whole is in the part

So I asked Mr Vith to take these ideas into consideration and he designed new suggestions:
Here they are:



A LOGO is the image embodying an organization. As is should be simple and unique it just can't transport all the messages we intend it to do.

We could use the LOGO for our website, for all the official papers, emails, etc.
Franz Ludescher is the contact person for the work with the LOGO and the members have to discuss and later to decide about the LOGO proposal.

vi) Fundraising and Financial Bids

Some of LITAs members were active in the process of applying for the EU bid of Leonardo da Vinci ; Multilateral Projects Transfer of Innovation 30.03.2007. It was a very big job to fill in all the 35 pages of the application additionally to make a budget. The application was sent from Norway. It was difficult to do everything, but it was the Norwegian Eu commission that inspired us to make the application. It was 5 partners involved; Pädagogische Akademie des Bundes in Voralberg Pädak Feldkirch, Big Ben School of Languages – Centre for vocational Education Millennium in Sofia, Department of Foreign Language Teaching, Faculty of Classical and Modern Philologies Sofia University St Kliment , Ohridski, Jaume 1 University, Castellón, Spain, Popeth Cymraeg, Wales. Unfortunately we did not get the EU project as we hoped. EU had some comments about the budget because we allocated too much to Dr. Lozanov as adviser and we did not have a good plan for spreading the results of the work. They also did not understand the effectiveness of the method compared to other methods. We need results and evaluation to be able to show why the method is better than others. This show also how difficult it is to explain the method and for people to understand the method if they have never been to any course or training in the methodology. These facts are one of the biggest challenges for spreading the method in the world. LITA has been happy to be supported economically by one of the trainers, Laila Alqadhi from Kuwait. We are all very thankful to her for her great help in the beginning of LITA's foundation.

We have thought about other possibilities to source funding. Nippon foundation is one of them. Nippon Foundation is a Japan based private funding organization and it has helped NPO in many countries in many fields especially in education. We approached Nippon Foundation in February 2008 and decided to apply for their funding program to establish our official library in Sofia. The actual application form is being prepared by the board and will be ready soon.

vii) Training and Dissemination of Guidelines for Good Practice

Over the past two years since the establishment in March 2006 LITA has followed the guidelines for good practices and carried out the following activities:

1. Dr. Lozanov's Lectures (refresher courses) on Suggestopaedia for LITA trainers, Norwegian teachers and teachers outside LITA, newly interested in Suggestopedia.
2. Demonstration English language courses for beginners run by Radostina Mihaleva in March 2006, September 2006, and September 2007, in Sofia, Bulgaria.

English language courses for beginners and pre-intermediate students in Lithuania run by Radostina Mihaleva in November-December 2007, in Kaunas, Lithuania.

viii) Conference and AGM

A conference and AGM are to be held annually and are an opportunity for trainers to both receive further training, to discuss areas of common interest, to elect representatives to the board, to discuss progress to date (including financial matters) and steer the association's future development.

ix) Dr. Lozanov's Biography

The activities of the committee and the present situation will be reported by the Lozanov biography subcommittee.

The Lozanov Biography Sub-committee prepared the questionnaire and sent it to all the LITA members in November, 2006. Zlatka Doumeva interviewed Dr. Lozanov and prepared some detailed information, which was later translated into English by Radostina Mihaleva.

The committee inquired of Dr. William Kelly, a lecturer at UCLA in America about the possibility of writing Dr. Lozanov's biography and had the meeting together with Dr. Lozanov and Dr. Kelly in summer 2007. Dr. Kelly accepted to write an article for a mainstream American publication (e.g. newspaper, magazine, journal) about Dr. Lozanov and Suggestopedia. For a biography to be written, it is required to prepare

different kinds of preliminary material such as memoirs of related people, archive records from Institutes, extracts from the media, etc. and the unfeasibility of the plan would require an alternative strategy. All the information of interviews and questionnaires were sent to Dr. Kelly, and he has also been interviewing Dr. Lozanov as well as some of the LITA members himself to prepare for writing his articles.

The Lozanov Biography Sub-committee consists of Leo Boudreau, Stavriana Soubassi, Gloria Alguacil, Zlatka Dumeva and Setsuko Iki (a liaison). "

5. Treasurer's report

The report will be presented to the members at the meeting in Viktorsberg and then the report will be sent to all the members after the meeting.