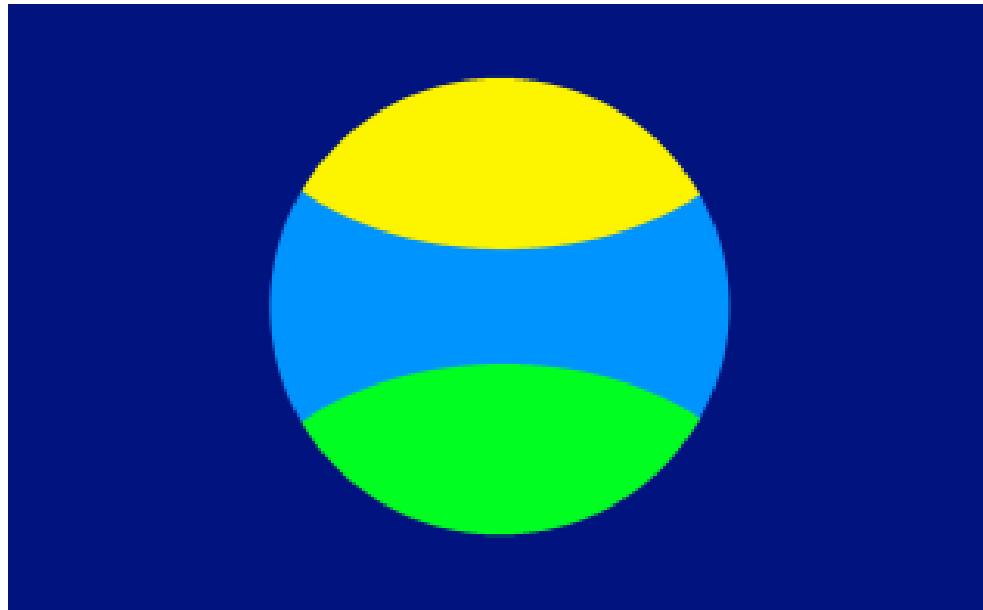


# Pandunia



a constructed global language

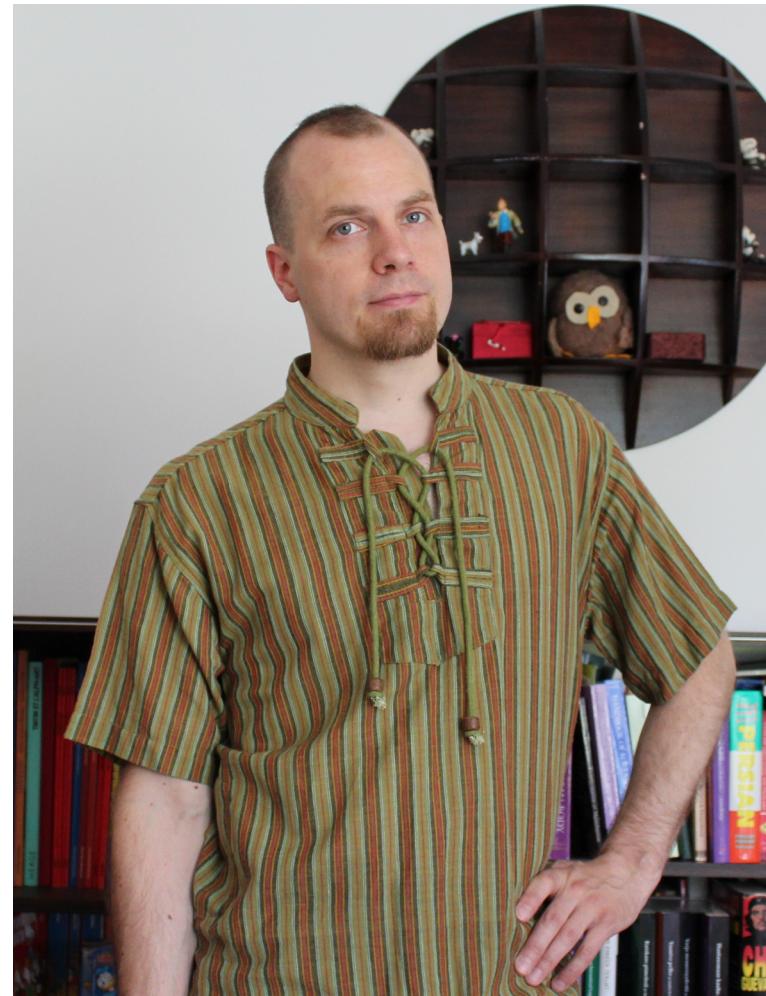
presentation by Risto Kupsala

for Friends of Pandunia

in Oulu, Finland 2017-01-29

# Who am I?

- Born in North Finland, Europe
- Education: Master of Science in Computer Science (2008)
- Job: Senior Software Specialist
- Father of two children
- Linguophile: I know Finnish, English, Swedish, German, French, Mandarin, Shanghainese, Kongo, Esperanto etc. in varying degrees of proficiency ;)
- Constructed language hobbyist since 2000
- In addition to worldlangs, I have created Samboka, a Finno-Ugric conlang



# Contents

1)What is a constructed language?

2)Types of *a posteriori* conlangs

- Onelang, kinlang, zonelang, worldlang

3)Pandunia, a globally sourced worldlang

# What is a constructed language?

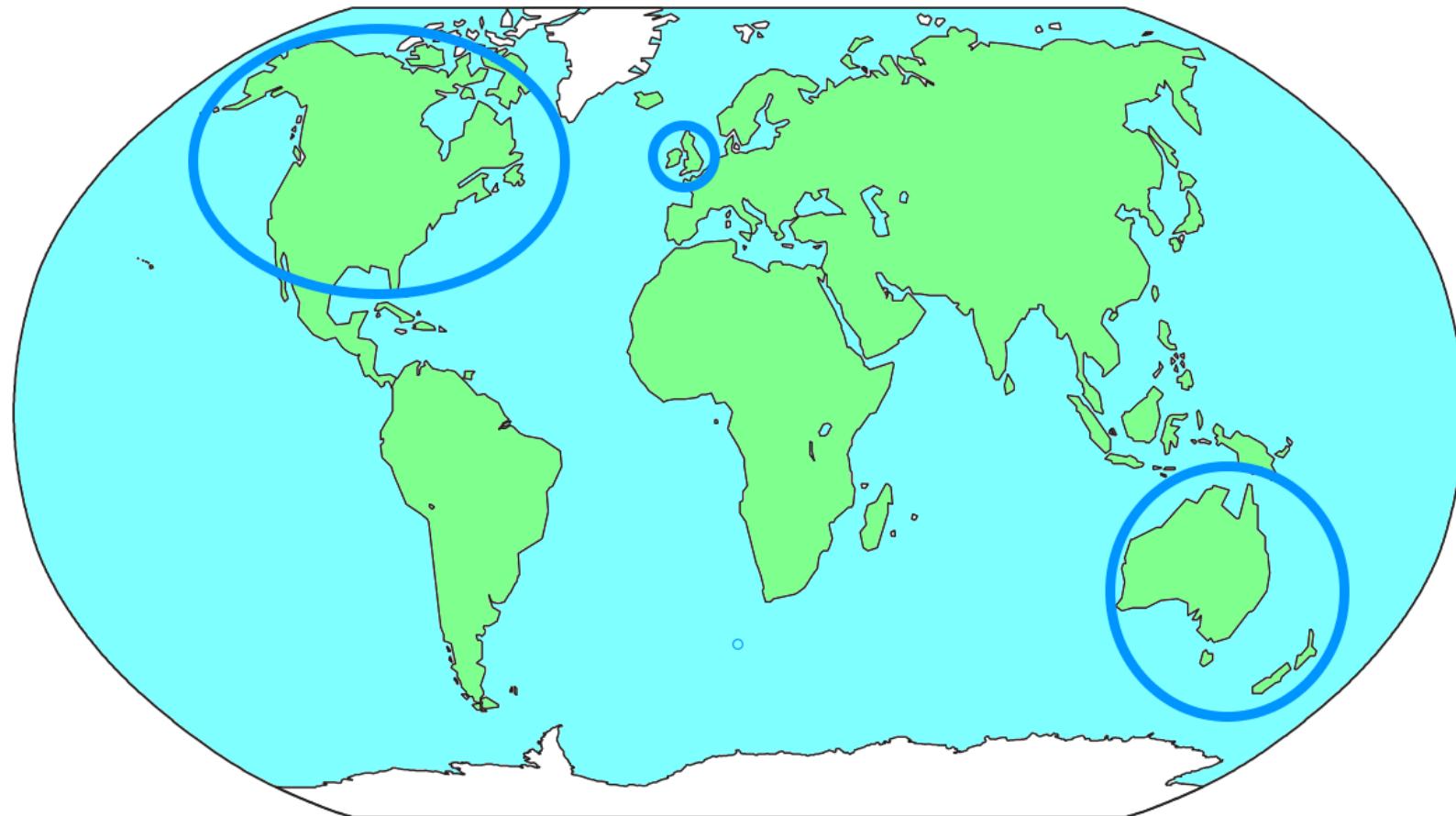
- A “conlang” is consciously created by people for a specific purpose
  1. Created for artistic expression → “artlang”
  2. Engineered for linguistic experimentation → “engelang”
  3. To help in international communication → “auxlang”
- They may have everything a natural language has: phonology, lexicon, morphology, syntax, idioms, literature, speakers, evolution
  - But in most cases their life ends shortly after their creator loses interest

# Basic Conlang Types

- *A priori* conlangs are made from completely new elements
  - neutral as nobody's language
- *A posteriori* conlangs are made from elements of one or more natural languages
  - Subtypes based on the number and distribution of source languages:
    1. onelang
    2. kinlang
    3. zonelang
    4. worldlang

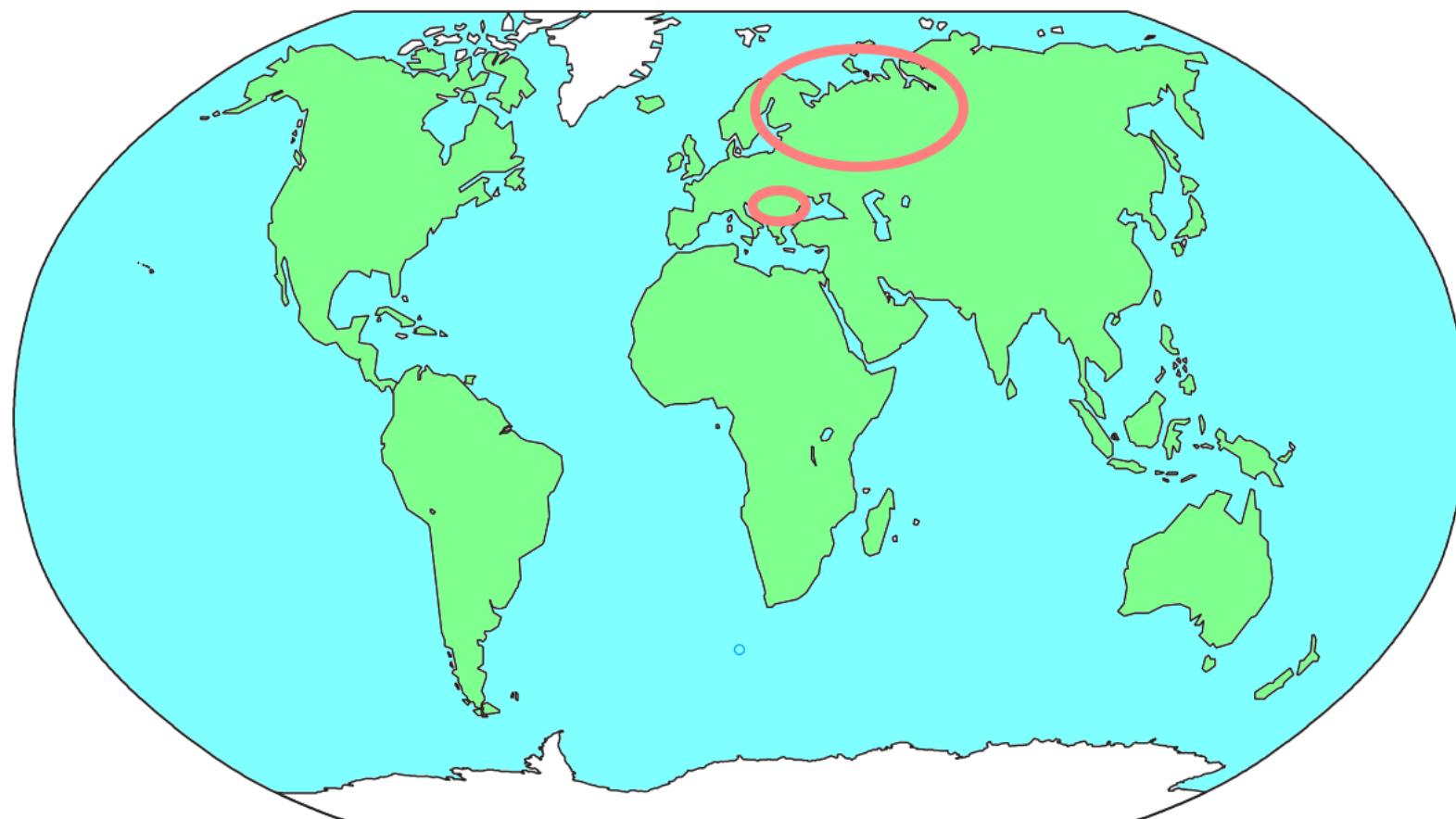
# Onelang

- One predominant source language
- Usually the source language is important internationally
  - Latin-based: Latino sine Flexione (by Giuseppe Peano)
  - English-based: BASIC English (by C.K. Ogden), Inlis (by Steve Rice)  
(main areas of native English speakers are circled on the map)



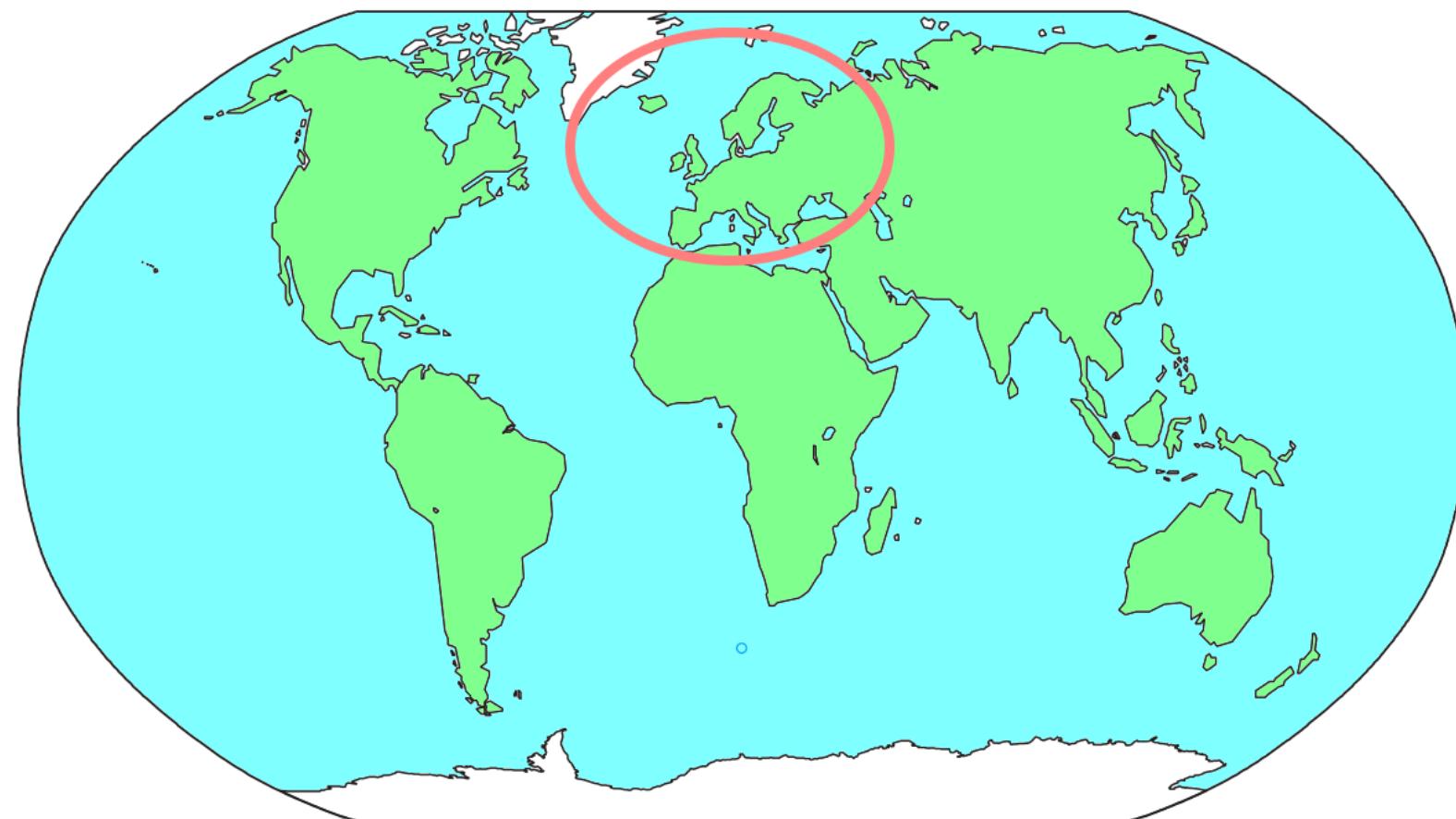
# Kinlang

- Based on several genetically related languages
  - Romance-based: Lingua Franca Nova, Romanova
  - Slavic-based: Slovio, Slovianski
  - Finno-Ugric-based: Budinos, Samboka  
(areas of natural Finno-Ugric languages are circled on the map)



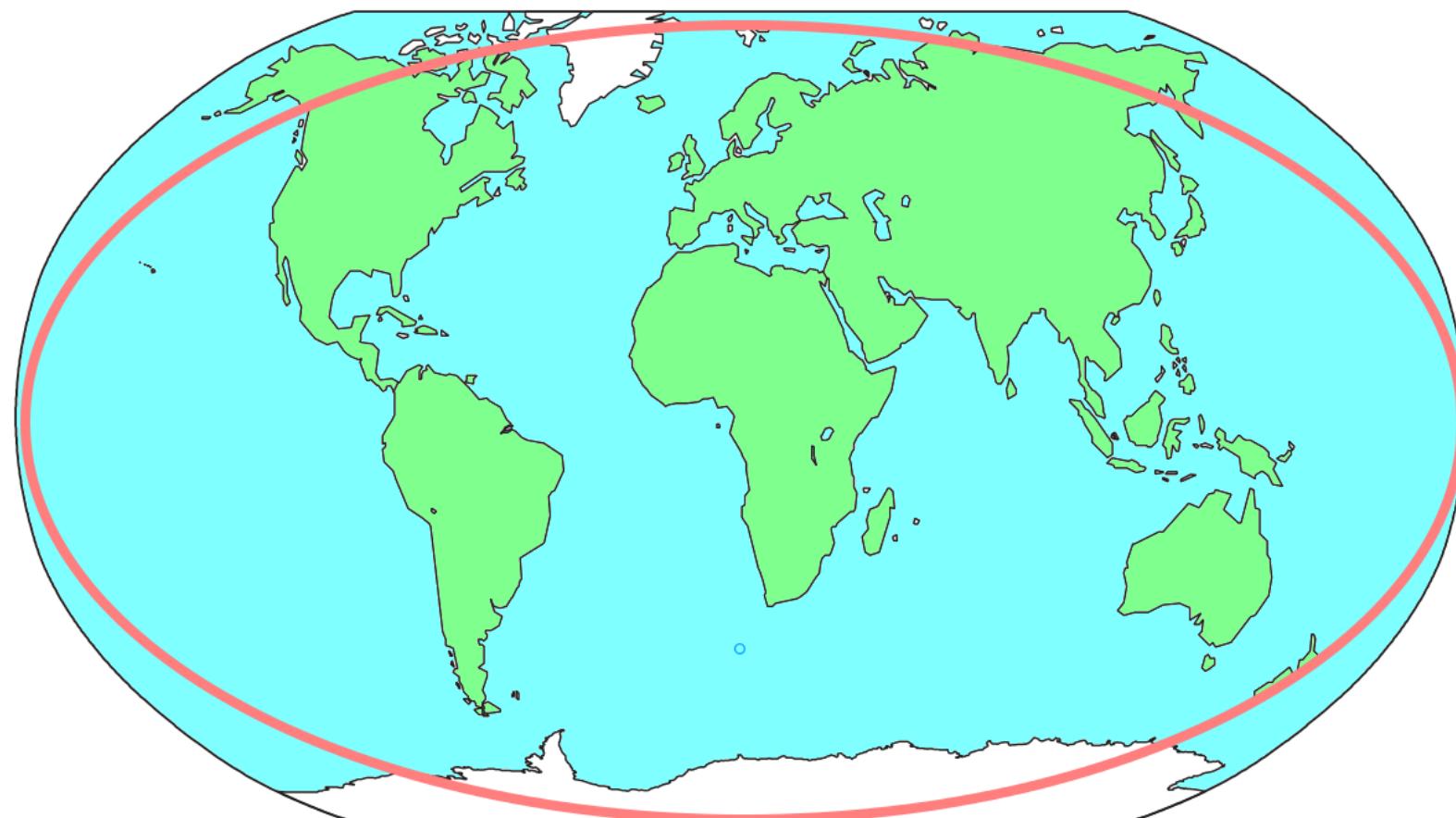
# Zonelang

- Based on several geographically related languages
- Neutral inside of its own area
- Separate languages are created for different zones: Europe (Esperanto, Ido, Interlingua), Africa (Afrihili), India (Indika)



# Worldlang

- Based on many unrelated languages from around the world
  - Neutral as everybody's language
  - Unish (by Institute for Universal Language, 2002), Lingwa de Planeta (by Ivanov et al., 2006)
  - Pandunia (by Kupsala & Wilkinson, 2012)



- Design goals
  - Bring together international words and expressions from different continents
  - Look and sound like a normal language
  - Simple and regular → easier to learn and to use than natural international languages

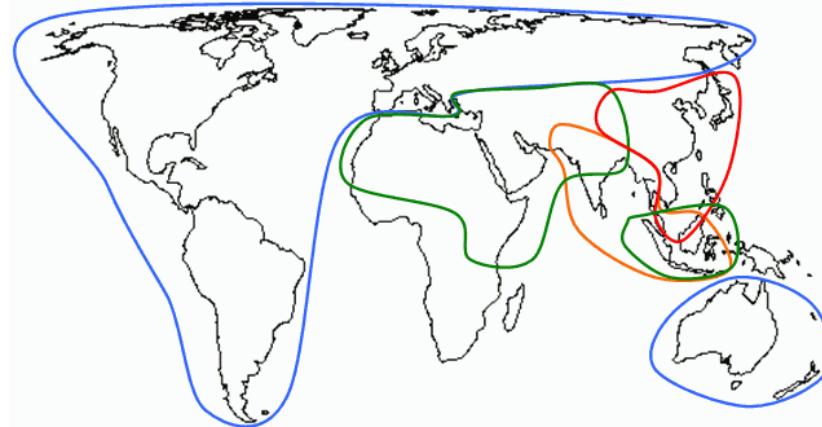
# Pandunia's speech sounds

- Alphabet: a b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p r s t u v w x y z
- Consonants
  - Stops: p b t d k g
  - Fricatives: f s z x h
  - Affricates: c j
  - Nasals: m n ng
  - Approximants: l r y w
- Vowels: a e i o u
- Differences compared to the International Phonetic Alphabet:
  - x = /ʃ/, c = /tʃ/, j = /dʒ/, y = /j/

# Word origins

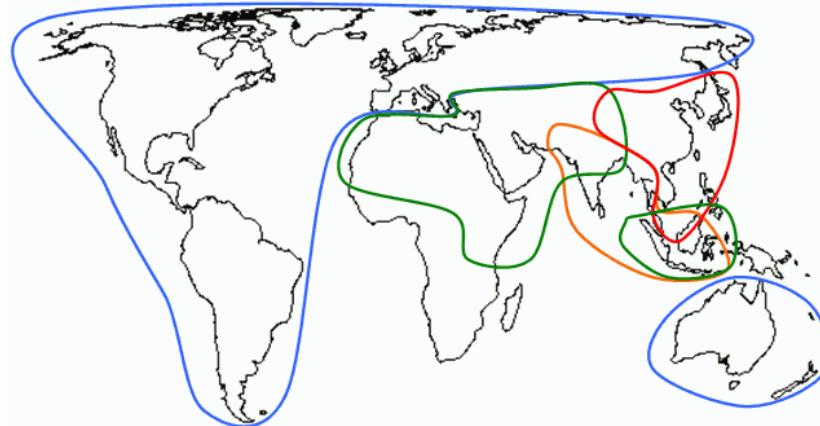
- All words in Pandunia are already international
  - All of them are borrowed from natural languages
  - All of them are wide-spread in one or several continents
- The major sources of international words are
  - Western words (from Greek, Latin, French, English, etc.)
  - Middle Eastern words (from Arabic, Persian, etc.)
  - South Asian words (from Sanskrit, Tamil, Hindi, etc.)
  - East Asian words (from Chinese, Japanese, etc.)

# Western words



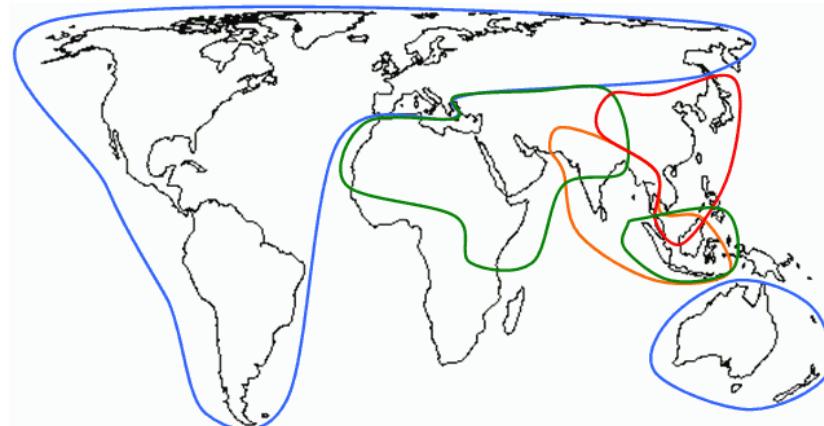
Pandunia	West	Middle-East & Africa	South Asia	East Asia
<b>meza</b> (table)	Spanish: mesa Portug.: mesa	Turkish: masa Persian: miz Swahili: meza	Hindi: /mez/ Indonesian: meja	
<b>bir</b> (beer)	English: beer German: Bier French: bière	Arabic: /bīra/ Turkish: bira Amharic: /bira/	Hindi: /biyar/ Indonesian: bir	Mandarin: píjiǔ Japanese: /biiru/
<b>motor</b>	English: motor Russian: мотор	Persian: /motor/ Arabic: /mutūr/	Hindi: /motar/	Mandarin: mótuō Japanese: /motā/
<b>sofa</b>	sofa		Hindi: /sofā/ Thai: /sofaa/	Mandarin: shāfā Japanese: /sofā/

# Middle Eastern words



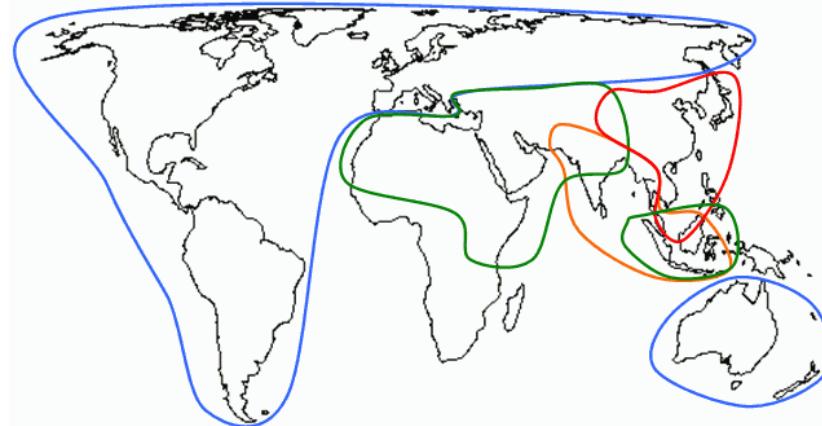
Pandunia	West	Middle-East & Africa	South Asia	East Asia
<b>safar</b> (travel)	“safari”	Arabic: /safar/ Swahili: safari	Urdu: /safar/ Hindi: /safar/	
<b>dunia</b> (world)		Arabic: /duniya/ Turkish: dünyə Swahili: dunia	Urdu: /duniya/	
<b>mosim</b> (season)	(English: monsoon)	Arabic: /mawsim/ Turkish: mevsim Swahili: msimu	Hindi: /mosam/ Indonesia: musim	
<b>hewan</b> (animal)		Arabic: /haiwan/ Turkish: heyvan Persian: /heyvān/	Hindi: /hevān/ Indonesia: kewan	

# South Asian words



Pandunia	West	Middle-East & Africa	South Asia	East Asia
<b>manux</b> (human)	German: Mensch (English: man)		Hindi: /mānuś/ Thai: /manut/ Indonesian: manusia	
<b>guru</b> (master)	English: guru		Hindi: /guru/ Tagalog: guró	
<b>tara</b> (star)	English: star	Persian: /setare/	Hindi: tārā Tagalog: tala	
<b>bud</b> (understanding)	English: bodhi		Hindi: buddhi Tagalog: budhi Indonesian: budi	

# East Asian words



Pandunia	West	Middle-East & Africa	South Asia	East Asia
<b>ca</b> (tea)	Russian: /chay/ Portug.: chá (English: chai)	Swahili: chai Turkish: çay Arabic: /šāy/	Hindi: /cāy/ Thai: /chaa/	Mandarin: chà Japanese: /cha/
<b>tufon</b> (storm)	English: typhoon Spanish: tifón Portug.: tufão	Arabic: /tufān/ Persian: /tufān/ Swahili: tufani	Hindi: /tufān/ Indonesian: topan	Mandarin: táifēng Canton.: toifung Japanese: /taifū/
<b>yang</b> (type)			Thai: yàang	Mandarin: yàng Vietnamese: dạng
<b>san</b> (three)			Thai: sam	Mandarin: sān Japanese: san Korean: sam

# Grammatical Structure

- Fixed word order: subject – verb – object
  - Same word order in declarations, questions, commands...
- Isolating structure on sentence level
  - No grammatical suffixes (like accusative case marker)

# Word Structure

- Each **word** consists of a **root** and possible **suffixes**
- Productive word derivation with vowel endings and other suffixes
  - Active verbs end in -a: loga (to speak)
  - Passive verbs end in -u: logu (to be spoken)
  - Result nouns end in -e: loge (spoken word)
  - Action nouns end in -o: logo (speaking)
  - Derived adjectives end in -i: logi (spoken, oral)

# Word categories

- Every root word belongs to a certain word category (i.e. part of speech)
- The categories are
  - Verbs: **cing** (to request), **jan** (to know)
  - Nouns: **manux** (human being), **dunia** (world)
  - Adjectives: **bon** (good), **putong** (general)
  - Adverbs: **max** (more), **min** (less), **plus** (also)
  - Numerals: **un** (one), **du** (two), **san** (three)
  - Particles: **i** (and), **u** (or), **wa** (wow)

# Word derivation 1/3

- New words are formed by adding vowel suffixes
- Adding **e** changes the word to a noun
  - **jan** (to know) → **jane** (knowledge, information)
  - **nowi** (new) → **nowe** (novelty, new thing)
  - **max** (more) → **maxe** (addition)
- **+i** changes the word to an adjective
  - **jan** (to know) → **jani** (known)
  - **manux** (human being) → **manuxi** (human)

# Word derivation 2/3

- Almost all active verbs end in **a**
  - **nowi** (new) → **nowa** (to renew, to make new)
  - **max** (more) → **maxa** (to add)
  - **log** (word) → **loga** (to speak)
- Almost all passive verbs end in **u**
  - **jan** (to know) → **janu** (to be known)
  - **nov** (new) → **novu** (to become new)

# Word derivation 3/3

- There are also other derivational suffixes for more specific meanings
  - **beka** (to bake)
    - **beker** (baker)
    - **bekeria** (bakery)
  - **nas** (people)
    - **nesia** (nation)
    - **nasial** (national)
    - **nasialisme** (nationalism)
  - **filsøf** (outlook)
    - **filsøfi** (philosophic)
    - **filsøfer** (philosopher)
    - **filsøfie** (philosophy)

- 200x: First ideas about evenly global auxiliary language
  - Classic auxlangs (Esperanto, Interlingua, etc.) had become outdated in the increasingly globalized world
- 2005: Several sketchy worldlang designs
  - *Neo Patwa* by Jens Wilkinson (USA/Japan)
  - *Lone* by Risto Kupsala (Finland)
  - *Luni* by Florent Garet (France)
- 2005: *Mulivo*, a collaborative wiki project for discovering international words from all continents
- 2006: *Gaia*, a worldlang sketch created in collaboration by Wilkinson, Kupsala & Garet
- In 2012 an extremely simplified prototype of Pandunia is published

- Pandunia is currently (in 2017) a developing language
  - Basic grammar and about 1000 root words
  - A little literature
  - A few speakers
- Developing a language requires a lot of work and concentration
  - No guide-book
  - Learning by doing
  - Learning from mistakes
- The concept of Pandunia is still interesting, well-founded and viable

# Future?

- Scenario 1: Optimistic
  - In the dream world, the world language is constructed together by a multinational group of people
  - Official support (from universities or the United Nations)
  - By 2040 Pandunia is used globally
- Scenario 2: Probable
  - Pandunia is actively developed by 1-3 people for another 5 years
  - Growth is slow at first but it speeds up
  - No official support
  - Used by thousands of “hobbyists” around the world
- Scenario 3: Pessimistic
  - No time to develop the language
  - Criticism and disappointment kills the inspiration
  - Result: Yet Another Failed Auxlang

# Links

- Pandunia web site: <http://www.pandunia.info>