

## **Luisa Passerini's Premise**

Fabrice Dubosc, who has been BABE's psycho-social consultant for migration related narratives as well as adviser for fieldwork in school, has sent us a post on a topic that we have very much at heart, how to contribute to save the European project by cultural actions. His proposal reminds me of the utopian suggestion by Frank Thompson, the Europeanist who was killed in Bulgaria in June 1944, while acting as a liaison officer between the British Army and the antifascist partisans. Thompson believed that a "splendid Europe" could be built, and he devised, among other activities, a plan for promoting solidarity in Europe through languages. After the war, all European schoolchildren should be taught languages in such a way as to allow communication along all European peoples. This would require the active knowledge of one language from each of the three major groups of language and a passive knowledge of other languages in Europe. The plan was well detailed and aimed at overcoming misunderstandings and ignorance of one another between Europeans. Thompson died at 24 and his plan was never put into practice. But ideas like his and the one proposed by Dubosc's post help us to believe that BABE's research too can be of some use in fighting ethnocentrism in Europe.