

## **Presentation**

*Manuel Alvar Ezquerra*

*This volume includes the Proceedings of the IV EURALEX International Congress, sponsored by **VOX Dictionaries**. The meeting was held in Benalmádena (Málaga) from 28th August to 1st September 1990, and was attended by 249 people. There were two plenary sessions headed by the Excmo. Sr. Director of the Real Academia Española, Manuel Alvar, and by Prof. Dr. D. Alfred Neubert. In addition, 81 presentations were read over 12 parallel sessions. The presentations were the result of a long process involving talks given by 40 specialists, coordinated in their respective sections by F. E. Knowles, H. Béjoint, Y. D. Apresjan, G. Stein, S. Atkins, N. O. Osselton and M. Alvar Ezquerra. In February 1990, once the selection had been made, Professors Antonio Zampolli (the President of EURALEX), Sue Atkins, Frank Knowles and myself met in Benalmádena to draft the programme which, excluding last minute modifications, was to be used in August.*

*When the Congress was over, the participants who so wished were asked to submit their work to yet another selection process, which has resulted in the collection of studies which constitute the Proceedings. At the decision of the EURALEX Executive Committee, this task was entrusted to Prof. Mary Schnell-Hornby, Prof. Frank Knowles and myself. I should like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to them, as the job was far from simple and took up much more time than we had foreseen. The selflessness and dedication involved have left their mark in the following pages, which bear witness to the quality of the Congress.*

*It would be unfair not to mention here those who worked with me in organizing the Congress, especially those at **VOX Dictionaries** who gave their help daily and sacrificed their summer holidays to benefit us all: María José Blanco Rodríguez, Juan Manuel López Guzmán, Fernando M. Pérez Lagos and Marino Castillo Cabezas in Málaga; and Juana González, Elvira Moragas i Margall, Andrew Hastings, Salut Llonch and Gerardo Romero in Barcelona, who later came down to Benalmádena. Without the contribution of entities such as the City Council of Málaga, the Town Council of Benalmádena, the County Council of Málaga, the Ministry of Education and Science, the Education Department of the Regional Government of Andalucía, the University of Málaga and IBM Spain, as well as the Savings Banks of Antequera, Ronda and Málaga, the Congress would never have been the same. This volume was made possible thanks to the contribution of Directorate-General XIII of the Commission of European Communities and of Biblograf, S.A., publisher of **VOX Dictionaries**, whose director, Mr. Antonio Buxeda Mestre, committed himself fully. My thanks to all of you for your help.*