

André Lötter



Linguist / Translator / Language Lover  
Entrepreneur  
Researcher

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- **Translation** (1988 to 2012)
  - First cross-cultural experience (long-term stay in Europe, 1989 to 1999):** study of French language and culture through grammar and literature but also by way of courses in cattle breeding, crop growing, organic farming, forestry, in typing, in documentary research, and a translation internship at a multilingual business telephone directory publisher.
  - Freelance translating:** From 1993, first part-time, then full-time, thereafter in tandem with several other professional activities.
  - Areas of translation:** economics, finance, law, contracts, science and technology, IT, geographic information systems, tourism, websites, business correspondence, corporate and university research, technical specifications, agriculture, software, etc.
  - Mother tongue:** Afrikaans
  - Main translation target language:** English
  - Main source languages:** French, German, Dutch, Spanish
  - Other languages** (at various levels of a beginner): Zulu, Hebrew, Greek, Aramaic
- **Entrepreneurship** (1998 to the present)
  - Tertiary sector:** translation agency, stockmarket investments, election campaigns, campaign for free and fair elections, investments in rural properties, rental incomes from commercial farmers, rural tourism village project, elected town councillor, project to create new political party, launch of humanitarian non-profit organizations in Geneva to contribute to the revitalisation of endangered and revival of extinct languages.
  - Secondary sector:** on-farm food processing and value-adding to own crops, small network of retail shops to sell farm produce, export of coal to India and timber to Japan.
  - Primary sector:** crop growing (maize), timber harvesting, sand mining.
  - Quarternary sector:** (see 'Research' below)
- **Research** (2009 to the present)
  - Politics:** analysing election results and designing election strategies for several South African political parties.
  - Human rights:** research on rights of citizens to free & fair elections and presenting cases to Electoral Court and Constitutional Court, resulting in overhaul of nationwide voters' rolls.
  - Science & technology:** councillor to Deputy Minister of Science & Technology (DST), Pretoria, on all matters pertaining to research carried out by DST scientists, public and private.
  - Indigenous peoples' rights and endangered languages:** research ways to revitalise and revive endangered languages, to devise a long-term endangered language revitalisation strategy for the International Committee of Tongues Without Borders.

## EDUCATION

### 1973 to 1984 **Primary and Secondary Education**

Primary schools: Louis Leipoldt, Verwoerdburg, South Africa (1973 to 1976)  
Stephanus Roos, Pretoria (1976 to 1979)  
Secondary school: Overkruin, Pretoria  
Distinctions in geography, and science & chemistry

### 1985 to 1992 **Tertiary Education** (*correspondance studies*)

Bachelor of Arts (partially completed) at University of South Africa, Pretoria  
Subjects: anthropology, linguistics, French, Spanish, German  
Distinctions in all subjects

### 1985 to 1987 **Law Studies During Military Service in South African Police Force**

Basic training at Police College, Pretoria. Wins prize of 'Best student of the year'.  
Posted at: Ministerial Guard Unit, Magistrates' Court orderly, Headoffice IT Section  
Rank: sergeant

### 1990 to 1991 **Vocational Training for Brevêt Professionnel d'Agriculture**

Certificate in cattle farming and crop growing at CFPPA, Pamiers, France  
Internships: organic farming, rabbit breeding, farm-based hospitality industry

### 1992 to 1999 **French Equivalentents of B.A. and Master's Degrees in Translating**

Ecole supérieure d'interprètes et de traducteurs (ESIT, Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris III)  
Diplôme de traducteur (BAC+5): English, French, Spanish  
Maîtrise de langues étrangères appliquées (BAC+4)  
Master's research thesis on European Economic and Monetary Union (300 pages)  
Extracurricular courses in Dutch and German

### From 2021 **Enrolled for PhD in Cultural Studies**

**Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Boris Previšić** of the Inst. for Alpine Cultures, Univ. of Luzern  
Field of research: the impact of geography on endangered languages  
PhD thesis: *"Do endangered languages do better in the Alps?"*

## OTHER

Nationality	South African
Born	3 March 1967, Pretoria
Reading interests	Political, economic, business, legal, religious news of the world
New interest	Learning languages written in non-Latin alphabets
Sport	Walking in nature (formerly also tennis, golf, chess)
Travels	26 countries
Countries resided in	South Africa: from 1967 to 1988, and from 1999 to 2015. France, Spain, Belgium, Switzerland, Reunion Island: 1988 to 1999, and from 2015 to the present.

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