

Oratiuncula qua Otto von Habsburg respondit honorabili collegae suo Capannae:

Magno mihi gaudio fuit, quod in sententia tua referenda usus es lingua vere Europaea et matre quodammodo omnium nostrum, qua diutius carere in hoc egregio concilio vix possumus. Ita fit, ut, qui in eis, quae dixisti nullo modo assentiri tibi, quem tamen valde gratulum tibi censeam, quod ausus es loqui Latine, quod quam utile sit, nonnullis nostrae aetatis hominibus non liquet propter egestatem cultus atque humanitatis. Ego contra perstandum esse in isto proposito Latinitatis provehendae censeo, praecipue in scholis nostris, quod humaniores nos reddet et sapientiores magisque conciliabit inter se tot gentes, tot nationes omni respectu diversas, beneficio latinitatis tamen coniunctissimas. Cui proposito invigilare, cui operam nostram impendere non pigebit; quod ad effectum perducere nostri non est, sed 'maneat nostros ea cura nepotes'.

The short speech in which Otto von Habsburg replied to his honourable colleague Capanna:

I was delighted that in his statement, he used a truly European language, indeed in some way the mother tongue of all of us, which we have long been sorely lacking in this distinguished assembly. Although I certainly cannot agree with you on the things you have said, I must expressly congratulate you on daring to speak Latin; however, for some of our contemporaries, because of their lack of education and training, the usefulness of this is unclear. On the other hand, I think that we must stand firm in our determination to promote Latin culture, especially in our schools, because it will make us more educated and more intelligent and will bring peoples and nations – which are different in every way, but still linked by their Latin heritage – closer together. We will never cease to be vigilant, to work towards the goal. And although we may not be able to achieve what we aim to do, 'may that duty await our children's children!'