

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT & CALL FOR PAPERS

New Challenges for Multilingualism in Europe Dubrovnik, Croatia 11-15 April 2010

This international conference is organized by the partners of **LINEE Network of Excellence** (<http://www.linee.info>) in collaboration with members of the integrated project **DYLAN** (http://www.dylan-project.org/Dylan_en/). It is co-funded by the European Commission's 6th Framework Programme for Research and Development.

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Organizing Institution: Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb

Conference goals

With an increased awareness of international globalisation and European integration, the existing mainstream conceptualizations of multilingualism and linguistic diversity have been increasingly questioned, in particular within the humanities and the social sciences. In a EU context of socio-political transition it is therefore a challenge to take stock of the existing disciplinary knowledge, and to reassess it against the background of the ongoing integration process which goes along with the transformation of traditional linguistic and cultural patterns where languages still function as markers of national identity and as symbols of social and economic power manifestations.

After almost four years of joint research, the goal of this top-level conference will be spreading the outcomes of research conducted by the LINEE network of excellence at the European and national/regional levels of policy making as well as to the general public and the public media with the aim of strengthening linkages between theoretical analysis and the dissemination of research results. In cooperation with researchers involved in the DYLAN project on language dynamics and management of diversity the Conference will also strive to provide a common platform for the exploration of new perspectives for research in the identified field.

Call for papers

The conference is intended to bring together academics representing a range of disciplines in humanities and social sciences, practitioners and EU/national policy makers, concerned with multilingualism and linguistic diversity in Europe. Proposals are invited for original and previously unpublished research papers that broadly fall within the following themes and topics:

- A. Language, Culture and Identity:** Within the context of ongoing glocalisation, the emergence of multiple identities compels to redefine the role of languages and lingua francas as identity markers, and as factors contributing to the distinctiveness

of culture-specific environments. The overall objective of this thematic block is to clarify the saliency of language as an identity marker in the EU. This points to the role of language in identity formation processes, the existence of language-based multiple identities, and the significance of language as part of well-being of their speakers, and primary symbol of possible secondary cultural, economical, political and other non-linguistic motives.

- B. Language Policy and Planning:** This thematic bloc is addressed to researchers interested not only on the institutional, intrinsic and professional process-oriented dimension, but also to those concerned with an often unnoticed, implicit or unintended language policy and language planning processes. A consensus on the demarcation between such concepts as “language policy”, “language planning” and related concepts (“aménagement linguistique”, “language politics”) will be discussed. The issues to examine concern the adequacy of the existing language policy and language planning efforts in the EU countries, identifying possible discrepancies between theory and practice.
- C. Multilingualism and Education:** The main issue to be tackled concerns the challenge of becoming not only multilingual, but multicompetent in a multilingual environment and the ways of developing the capacity to behave in a flexible and adequate manner in concrete multilingual contexts. The two main fields in which these questions can be answered, are in general a) Second Language Acquisition, including all forms of language acquisition apart from first language acquisition, from contact languages present in the territory to school learning of truly foreign languages) and b) bilingual Education (including concurrent learning of several languages).
- D. Language and Economy:** This topic is focused on the interplay between language and economy and their impact on the building of a knowledge-based society. The focus will be on the relationship between language, geographical mobility and New Economy growth patterns. If we conceive of the economic order as a determining force in society, and if we take into account that economy cannot do without language, then it follows that economy has profound implications for language (its use and status, the emergence of lingua francas) in society. This is all the more true as economy itself has shifted from industrial age to a knowledge economy.

The abstract **submission deadline** for individual papers is **October 1, 2009**. Further details regarding abstract submission and registration are available on the conference websites: <http://www.amiando.com/lineeconference>

Location of the conference:

Dubrovnik is one of the most attractive places on the Mediterranean. It is a city with a unique political and cultural history, and a world famous monumental heritage and beauty inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List (<http://www.tzdubrovnik.hr>).

For additional information please **contact** or call:

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