

# 3rd LINEE + CONFERENCE Call for Papers

Dubrovnik, 28 – 30 April 2014

Linguistic and Cultural Diversity in Space and Time

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PhD Training Workshop in Multilingualism Research

Dubrovnik, 30 April– 2 May, 2014

## Organized by

### LINEE+

Institute for Anthropological Research, Zagreb (INANTRO)

Croatian Anthropological Society

Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts

IUAES Commission on Linguistic Anthropology

The 3<sup>rd</sup> LINEE+ conference is an established biennial event that provides an influential international forum for discussion on theory and practice in research of multilingualism and wider issues of linguistic and cultural diversity. It builds on the successes of 1<sup>st</sup> LINEE (2010) and 2<sup>nd</sup> LINEE (2012) Conferences held in Dubrovnik by continuous rethinking of linguistic and cultural diversity and extending the debates in new, interdisciplinary directions.

## Conference themes & topics

The conference aims to attract a wide ranging mix of international researchers of various disciplinary backgrounds, and different stakeholders in order to share their research insights, discuss diversity from various disciplinary approaches (linguistics, anthropology, sociology, psychology, economy, cultural studies, history, philosophy, etc.), and to propose new interdisciplinary perspectives in research and practice of linguistic and cultural diversity.

The focus of the conference will be placed on five specific themes:

1. **Historical multilingualism – Lessons from the past:** Far from being a novelty and an issue of current globalizing processes, multilingualism has been firmly established in many parts of the world for a very long time. Since antiquity to modern empires, there were 'contact zones' of migrants and travellers, particularly in the cities, where this mixture of people had to work out how to organize social relations, labour and trade, and where contests, but also intercultural dialogue, took place over their multiple languages. The proposals in this thematic session will reconsider such historical contexts from the present point of view, and illuminate the relationship between newer and older ideas about linguistic practices that might shed light on present challenges of multilingualism in Europe and other parts of the world.
2. **Commodification of languages – *Liaisons dangereuses*:** The dominant process underlying the transformation of life in all current societies, has been the conversion of things and activities into commodities, or commodification, expanding into all domains of social and cultural life. Not surprisingly, languages are also seen now as commodities that carry different values in the era of globalization, while under economic pressure language practices are used as currency for the flow of capital. The papers in this session will engage with causes and consequences of this process in a multilingual society, particularly in relation to its potential impacts on gender relations, income distribution and social solidarity.
3. **Multilingualism and material life – 'Talking' things:** Language is only made truly understandable in the context of other meaning-making practices. Nonverbal communication involves far more than the exchange of new information through body language, including an immense range of cultural materialities, found in both private and public spaces, that affect daily multilingual practices in pluralistic social settings. As there is little doubt that the study of objects, or artifacts, remains underutilized within the study of multilingualism, the papers in this session will explore how material culture beyond the scope of classical linguistic landscape mediates communicative practices and intercultural dialogue in a multilingual society.
4. **The dark side of multilingualism – Social visions and divisions:** In recent years, a number of societal, economic and political developments in Europe and all over the world have been changing the conditions of multilingualism. New nationalisms, new forms of mobility, new

relations between hegemonic and heritage languages are some of developments deeply affecting multilingual contexts, and urging us to reconsider some basic notions such as the nature of language, nativity, hybridity, local vs. global or linguistic rights. Contributions to this session shall concentrate on research of such developments and how to deal with them.

5. **Multilingual brains and minds - Joys and fears?** For a considerable time already there has been a scientific discussion about the effects of knowing and using multiple languages on the human brain and thinking. In addition to increasing our understanding of how languages are neurally represented, a growing body of recent research has revealed important insights into the functioning of multilingual brains and their advantages for learning in general, complex thinking and creativity, mental flexibility, interpersonal and communication skills, and even for the onset of age-related mental deterioration. This session will explore the relations between multilingualism and communicative skills, cognition in general, memory, creativity and health in terms of its benefits and costs.

The organizers will also accept a wide range of other topics related to our broad main theme (e.g. on language and education, new literacies, translation, language policy, etc.).

### Abstract submission

The abstract submission deadline for individual conference papers is **31st December, 2013**. Notification of acceptance will be sent by 1 February 2014. Further details regarding abstract submission and registration are available on the conference website: <http://linee.co.nf/>

### Scientific Committee

- \* Anna Fenyvesi (University of Szeged)
- \* Rita Franceschini (University of Bolzano)
- \* Jiri Nekvapil (Charles University, Prague)
- \* Anita Sujoldzic (INANTRO)
- \* Dick Vigers (University of Southampton)
- \* Peter Weber (Univ. of Applied Sciences for Economics and Media, Calw)
- \* Iwar Werlen (University of Bern)

### Organizing Committee

- \* Anita Sujoldzic, Chair (INANTRO)
- \* Pavao Rudan (Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts)
- \* Vesna Muhvic-Dimanovski (University of Zagreb)
- \* Josip Lah (INANTRO)
- \* Anja Ivekovic-Martinis (INANTRO)
- \* Olga Orlic (INANTRO)

## LINEE+ PhD Training Workshop in Multilingualism Research

After six successful workshops since 2007, the LINEE+ PhD Training Workshop in Multilingualism Research will once again take place at the Inter-University Centre, Dubrovnik, from **30 April until 2 May 2014**. Its primary purpose is to focus on linguistic diversity in a multidisciplinary and multidimensional setting. The teaching staff includes LINEE+ members as well as external top experts and researchers from a number of relevant disciplines. Besides offering a series of lectures/seminars held by internationally renowned academics the workshop functions as an important platform for young researchers to share new ideas, results from their own ongoing research and interdisciplinary approaches within their area of expertise.

Participation in the Training Workshop will be free of charge. Participants will also be able to apply for a limited number of accommodation **grants**. Further information about resource persons and program will be available at [www.linee.co.nf](http://www.linee.co.nf) from **15th October 2013**.

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Further information about the conference and the PhD workshop can be found at [www.linee.co.nf](http://www.linee.co.nf)