

# Language Contact and Language Change in Western Asia

10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> March 2017  
Goethe University Frankfurt, Germany

## CALL FOR PAPERS

### Call deadline

15<sup>th</sup> December 2016 for abstract submission

### Submissions

Proposals are open to anyone but we especially welcome:

1. Postgraduate students (MA, MPhil, MSt, etc.);
2. PhD students/candidates and post-docs at any stage of their degree.

We invite submissions of preliminary abstracts (max. 1 page, excluding references) for 20 minute presentations. Please send your abstracts through <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=lclcwa2017> by 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

### Important dates:

15<sup>th</sup> December 2016 — Call deadline (submission of abstracts)

10<sup>th</sup> January 2017 — Notification of acceptance

### Conference description:

The conference “Language Contact and Language Change in Western Asia” focuses on multilingualism in Western Asia. Within Western Asia, we aim at focusing the Kurdish-populated areas in the regions of Iran, Iraq, Syria, Turkey and the neighboring countries Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. In this area, several Indo-European varieties are spoken, including Armenian, Kurdish varieties, and Persian. A number of non-Indo-European languages are spoken as well, such as Azeri Turkic, Neo-Aramaic, and Turkish. Finally Georgian and other Caucasian languages are also spoken in the region. Most of the above-mentioned languages exhibit a suprastratum of Semitic, Iranian and Turkic languages due to their close contact for centuries.

The conference explores the use of corpus methods in descriptive and theoretical analysis of word order change of natural languages in a multilingual area like Western Asia. Focal areas of interest include, but are not limited to language contact and language change in word order, information structure, and prosody. Furthermore, we are interested in theoretical and methodological issues pertaining to corpus-oriented research in language contact, i.e. tools, methods, and techniques in corpus assembly, annotation and analysis, the interaction between corpus linguistics and computational linguistics, the relevance of corpus linguistics and linguistic theory, the use of statistical and quantitative methods in detecting patterns of language change, as well as the impact of corpus-based vs. corpus-driven approaches on our view and understanding of morphosyntactic change in languages.

### Invited speakers:

Prof. Dr. Anaid Donabedian (Labex EFL, Inalco, SeDyL, Paris, France)

Prof. Dr. Geoffrey Khan (University of Cambridge, UK)

Prof. Dr. Jost Gippert (Goethe University of Frankfurt, Germany)

Prof. Dr. Martin Haspelmath (MPI-SHH Jena & Leipzig University, Germany)

Prof. Dr. Michael Chyet (Library of Congress, Washington D.C., US)

Prof. Dr. Yaron Matras (Manchester University, UK)

### Scientific committee:

PD Dr. Agnes Korn (CNRS, UMR Mondes iraniens et indiens, Paris, France)

Prof. Dr. Eleanor Coghill (Uppsala University, Sweden)

Prof. Dr. Geoffrey Haig (Bamberg University, Germany)

PD Dr. Irina Nevskaya (Goethe University of Frankfurt, Germany)

Dr. Mojtaba Monshizadeh (Allameh Tabataba'i University, Iran)

Dr. Thomas Jügel (Labex EFL, Inalco, Paris, France)

Dr. Zahra Abolhassani Chimeh (Research Center, SAMT, Iran)

Regular updates will be announced on:

<https://www.facebook.com/Humanities-and-Linguistics-Cross-Disciplinary-Approaches-1668887300067775/>

<https://kurdishstudiesnetwork.net/2016/11/06/call-for-papers-language-contact-and-language-change-in-western-asia/>

### **Conference fee**

The conference fees listed below are in Euros

Full pack (including the main conference, three days of tutorials and workshops, refreshments, conference dinner on Friday)

**Frankfurt-based student: 35**

**Student: 55**

**Regular: 80**

Main conference only

**Frankfurt-based student: 12**

**Student: 35**

**Regular: 65**

### **SPONSORS**

We gratefully acknowledge the continued support of our principal sponsors [GRADE](#) and the Department of Comparative Linguistics at the University of Frankfurt.

More information will be announced in December 2016. We are looking forward to hosting you in Frankfurt.

Your Organization Committee

Hiwa Asadpour (Founding Chair)

Peter Reimer, Daniel Krauß (Coordinators)

Inquiries and contact: [LCLCWAConference@gmail.com](mailto:LCLCWAConference@gmail.com)