



**Professionalizing the teachers of today and tomorrow:
*Language Teacher Identity and beyond***

Paderborn University, Germany: November 21, 2025

We are seeking proposals for a one-day symposium in November 2025 on (foreign) language teacher identity within various sociocultural, institutional, and policy-driven contexts. Language teacher identity (LTI) is a crucial aspect of teacher development and professionalization, which is dynamic and multifaceted in nature. This conference aims to explore the evolving nature of LTI, examining how educators construct, negotiate, and perform their professional identities in diverse linguistic and educational settings at any stage of their career. Through empirical research, theoretical perspectives, case studies and reflective narratives, we aim to highlight the interplay between identity, pedagogy, professionalization, and teacher development.

Key themes:

- Identity formation in multilingual and multicultural classrooms,
- The influence of teacher education programs on LTI,
- (Foreign) Language use in classrooms and its influence on LTI,
- Language policies, professional development, and their impact on LTI,
- The intersection of teacher agency and professionalization,
- Digital technologies and their role in shaping teacher identity,
- Migration, integration, and the evolving role of language educators.

Confirmed keynote speakers:

Gary Barkhuizen (University of Auckland)
David Gerlach (University of Wuppertal)
Sílvia Melo-Pfeifer (University of Hamburg)

Submission Guidelines:

We invite submissions of original research papers, case studies, and reflective pieces on topics related to the conference theme. Abstracts (250-300 words, in APA7 style) should be submitted by **June 30, 2025**. Submissions should clearly state the research objectives, methodology, and relevance to the conference theme. We would also like to encourage early career scholars to present their work at the conference. Selected papers will be considered for publication in an edited volume or a special journal issue. Participation without presentation is also possible; please register using the email address below. The conference language is English. We would like to encourage in-person participation but have also included a hybrid option for the conference. Please indicate your preference (in-person or online) when submitting your abstract.

Submissions via Indico: <http://tiny.cc/2025LTI>

In order to submit your abstract, you first have to create an account in Indico.

Submission deadline: June 30, 2025

Notification of acceptance: August 2025

Contact Information: For inquiries, please contact katharina.elbwart@upb.de

Organizers & Sponsors:

Dr. Katharina v. Elbwart & Dagmar Keatinge, English Department at Paderborn University
Committee for Research and Academic Careers, Paderborn University

**Hybrid option
available!**

