



The University of Cyprus (Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies)

and

**the UMR SeDyL Structure et Dynamique des Langues
(Paris - Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales, CNRS, IRD)**

organize an International Conference on

**Endangered languages of Eastern Mediterranean: Current challenges
(MedEastern)**

to be held at the University of Cyprus, Nicosia, on 21-24 May 2011

According to the UNESCO's Red book of Endangered Languages, the endangered languages of Eastern Mediterranean present a variety of situations which differ greatly from each other as regards the degree of endangerment, their status as oral languages vs languages of long literary tradition, their nature of diaspora vs autochthonous languages or varieties of other countries' official languages etc.

Endangered languages are not only an important issue for language documentation, but also for other important linguistic issues, both theoretical and applied, such as multilingualism and the dynamics of language contact, standardization and normalization, language planning, language teaching etc.

This conference aims to form a network of researchers with a special interest in the study of the endangered languages of Eastern Mediterranean. We welcome proposals for papers on any aspect of the study of endangered languages, with a special emphasis on the question of the dynamics of endangered languages, the measurement of language vitality, on issues of language and education policies, and the social requirements and demands in these areas.

In the framework of the conference, two workshops aiming at bringing together researchers and teaching professionals will be organized:

- "Teaching/Transmitting Western Armenian grammar today : challenges and solutions"
Coordinator: Anaid Donabédian, INALCO - Paris
- "How to teach an oral endangered language: Cypriot Maronite Arabic"
Coordinator: Marilena Karyolemou, University of Cyprus - Nicosia

Abstracts

Participants wishing to present a paper (20-minute presentation + 10-minute discussion) are invited to send their abstract (350 words maximum including references, Times New Roman 10pt, single space) as attachment in Word or RTF format to Marilena Karyolemou at makar@ucy.ac.cy and a paper copy by post to the following address: Marilena Karyolemou, Department of Byzantine and Modern Greek Studies, University of Cyprus, P.O.Box 20537, 1678 Nicosia. On the abstract participants should mention the title, author's/authors' name/names, affiliation and a contact address. Please use the following name format for your file: [MedEastern[surname of major author]], e.g. MedEasternSmith. The deadline for submissions is **March 31, 2012**. The official languages of the conference are French, Greek and English. Authors will receive notification of acceptance no later than April 15, 2012.



Important dates

- Abstract submission: March 31, 2012.
Notification of acceptance: No later than April 15, 2012.
Final registration and payment of conference fees: May 5, 2012.
- Academic staff, researchers: 100 euros
 - Students: 40 euros

Place of conference

The conference will take place at the University of Cyprus, 75 Kallipoleos str., 1678 Nicosia.

Scientific committee

Jose Argenter, Càtedra UNESCO de Llengües i Educació - Institut d'Estudis Catalans
Anaid Donabédian, INALCO
Marilena Karyolemou, University of Cyprus
Marianna Katsoyannou, University of Cyprus
Geoffrey Khan, Cambridge University
Eirini Tsamadou-Jacobberger, University of Strasbourg

Organizing committee

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