

XVI AISV Conference

Language variation under contact conditions: acquisitional contexts, languages, dialects and minorities in Italy and around the world

January 29-31, 2020

Department of Cultures, Education and Society, Rende, Italy

The notion of language contact, brought to light by scholars like Weinreich and Haugen in the early 1950s, embraces a vast range of situations, places and contexts, making it a complex and articulated subject of remarkable and consistent interest for study and research.

Interaction between language systems, in terms of multidirectional interference phenomena, may take place both in individual speakers' idiolects and the entire linguistic community of a particular geographical territory, by flowing into possible functional and/or structural variations, operating at all linguistic levels, in terms of convergence, drift, attrition or loss, depending on the diachronic (inter-generational processes) or synchronic (intra-generational) action of the process. The dynamics of present-day global society expand similar phenomena, because of the extensive contacts between language systems, also typologically distant, as a result of migratory flows across the world's countries, including those away from and towards Italy.

What kind of processes and dynamics rule the coexistence of different varieties in the same time periods and places? What kind of relations are established between coexisting systems in the individual and in the group?

The conference aims at stimulating reflection on this theme, encouraging discussion on the following points:

- variability and influences between L1 and L2/LS in acquisitional and migratory contexts;
- phenomena of variation in bilingual and multilingual conditions;
- situations of contact between official languages, dialects and minority languages;
- analysis of the relations between heritage languages and dominant varieties;
- relationships between Italian language and dialects in Italy and abroad;
- influences between L1 and L2/LS in people with Specific Language Impairments and Learning Disorders;
- technological applications for multilingual speech recognition.

In a multidisciplinary perspective, the conference encourages presentations of original contributions dealing with all forms of contact-induced variation, from different points of view: phonetic-phonological, sociolinguistic, dialectological, psycholinguistic, ethnographical, communicative-interactive.

Further proposals on any aspect of Speech Science research will be welcome. Oral presentations should be held in Italian or English. Power Point presentations and posters should be written in English.

Invited speakers

ELISA FERNANDEZ REI, ILG, Universidad de Santiago de Compostela
<https://ilg.usc.gal/es/persoal/elisa-fernandez-rei>

ESTHER DE LEEUW, Queen Mary University of London
<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/sllf/linguistics/people/academic/profiles/leeuw.html>

Additional guests will be later announced.

Abstract submissions

Authors are invited to submit abstracts by 16 September. Abstracts should be written in English or Italian and should be restricted to a minimum of 1000 and a maximum of 1500 words, and two A4 format pages, including graphs and references. Abstracts should be submitted in .pdf format through the procedure that will be set up on the Congress website (starting from the 15th of July).

Full papers should be submitted by April 6, 2020.

Presentations

Oral presentations, in .ppt or .pdf format, will last 20 minutes and will include a brief Q&A session. Posters should be printed in A0 format (841mm-1189mm) and in portrait orientation.

Important dates

Abstract submissions: 16 September 2019

Notification of acceptance: 30 October 2019

Conference dates: 29-31 January 2020

Full paper submissions: 6 April 2020

Organising committee

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