

Conference call for papers

## **Interactions between indigenous and migrant minority languages in changing multilingual environments**

17-19 July 2013  
University of Luxembourg  
Luxembourg

### **Keynote speakers**

- **Stephen May**, School of Critical Studies in Education, University of Auckland (New Zealand)
- **Guus Extra**, Chair of Language and Minorities, Tilburg University (Netherlands)
- **Melissa G. Moyer**, Departament de Filologia Anglesa, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Catalonia)

### **Theme**

Minority languages, by their very nature, exist in multilingual environments. But far-reaching developments in globalisation and migration mean these multilingual environments are currently undergoing dramatic changes. Across Europe and around the world, traditional forms of multilingualism are giving way to new and more complex forms, in which speakers of indigenous minority languages must negotiate their place alongside newer migrant minority languages, in addition to other more established majority languages.

In such contexts, several issues are raised, including:

- How do speakers of indigenous minority languages construct their position in relation to speakers of both 'old' majority languages and 'new' minority languages?
- How do indigenous minority language speakers view migrant minority languages? Are these languages seen in terms of threat/competition, or as facilitating acceptance of a wider range of languages within a multilingual society?
- What three-way relationships exist between the indigenous minority language(s), the majority language(s), and the new migrant language(s)?
- What scope is there for indigenous minority languages to gain prominence in a changing multilingual environment?
- What can speakers of indigenous and migrant languages learn from each other's minority language experiences?
- What even counts as a minority language in these increasingly complex multilingual environments?

With these issues in mind, this conference addresses the overall question of:

*What challenges and possibilities do changing forms of multilingualism pose for speakers of indigenous and migrant minority languages, and what opportunities are presented by interactions between the two?*

The conference welcomes data-driven papers focusing on interactions between indigenous and migrant minority languages in Europe and around the world, in fields including but not limited to:

- Language policy
- Language ideologies/discourses about minority languages
- Linguistic landscapes
- Advertising
- The new media
- The workplace
- Health communication
- Education
- Literature and the arts

For inclusion in the conference, papers must directly address the following areas:

- How an existing multilingual environment is changing in response to current demographic developments
- What interactions are occurring between speakers of indigenous and migrant minority languages in this changing multilingual context
- What challenges and/or opportunities these interactions present for speakers of indigenous and migrant minority languages.

Terms such as minority/majority languages and indigenous/migrant languages are (increasingly) problematic, and conference participants are encouraged to critically engage with these terms in their presentations.

The conference will take place in multilingual Luxembourg, a traditionally trilingual and increasingly multilingual country that is a prime example of the changing forms of multilingualism that are the subject of the conference.

### **Abstract submission**

Abstracts should:

- be sent to Julia de Bres ([julia.debres@uni.lu](mailto:julia.debres@uni.lu)) by 30 November 2012.
- be no more than 500 words in length
- include the author's title, name and affiliation
- directly address the conference theme
- indicate whether they are intended to be considered for a paper presentation (20 minutes plus questions) or a poster session.

Submitters will be notified of the outcome of their submission in January 2013.