

48. Österreichische Linguistiktagung (ÖLT)

17-19 December 2024; Innsbruck

Call for Papers

for the workshop

Empowering minoritised languages: Strategies, methods, and innovations in the field of language revitalisation and reclaiming

This workshop is based on the HORIZON EUROPE project "RISE UP - Revitalising Languages and Safeguarding Cultural Diversity" (<https://www.riseupproject.eu/>). The aim of the project is to empower minoritised language communities in Europe. The focus is on five case study communities (Aranese, Aromanian, Burgenland Croatian, Cornish, and Seto). This workshop focuses on the aspect of the project that deals with methods for the safeguarding and revitalisation of minoritised languages.

In this workshop we would like to go beyond the scope of the project and look at strategies, methods, and innovations from different contexts and communities. Language revitalisation has traditionally been associated with intergenerational transmission and its reactivation (Fishman 1991). Other approaches emphasise the importance of entering new domains of language use and expanding to so-called new speakers (O'Rourke & Pujolar 2013). The RISE UP project combines three theoretical orientations, a linguistic ecology approach, an interest in new language users, and a usage-based approach to language learning, which we summarise under the following slogans: "the danger of a single solution", "the power of new speakers" and "use it, don't lose it". A core theme is ideological clarification (Kroskrity 2010; Hornsby 2022), which deals with the legitimacy of speakers and varieties. We invite you to critically address these theoretical orientations in the context of the topics proposed below.

This workshop should go beyond traditional categories of language revitalisation and focus on methods, tools, resources, initiatives, etc. that encourage the active use of a minoritised language. Topics may include:

- Media such as newspapers, websites, social media, radio stations or broadcasts, podcasts, television programmes or online videos
- Events such as music and art festivals, concerts, theatre performances, etc.
- Associations of or for minoritised language communities (sports clubs, cultural associations, music associations, dance groups, etc.)
- Institutional facilities and services such as language courses for learning the minoritised language, services for children, libraries, etc.
- Competitions and awards associated with a minoritised language
- Digital apps and services, such as language learning apps for minoritised languages, the use of AI in language revitalisation, machine translation, etc.
- The role of music in the minoritised language
- Books of different genres and for different age groups in the minoritised language (e.g. children's books or youth literature)
- Other resources that (aim to) contribute to the safeguarding, use, and revitalisation of minoritised languages in the broadest sense

We welcome submissions in the above areas and beyond, as long as they have the ambition or potential to contribute to the revitalisation of minoritised languages.

References

- Fishman, Joshua A. 1991 *Reversing Language Shift: Theory and Practice of Assistance to Threatened Languages*. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters.
- Hornsby, Michael. 2022. 'Authentic' language as a contested concept in Brittany. *Adeptus* 2022(19), Article 2743. 1-20.
- Kroskrity, Paul V. 2010. Language ideologies - Evolving perspectives. In Jürgen Jaspers, Jan-Ola Östman & Jef Verschueren (eds.), *Society and Language Use* (Handbook of Pragmatics Highlights 7), 192-211. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- O'Rourke, Bernadette & Joan Pujolar. 2013 From native speakers to "new speakers" - Problematizing nativeness in language revitalization contexts. *Histoire Épistémologie Langage* 35(2). 47-67.

Organisers

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Submissions

Presentations of 20 minutes each are planned, followed by a discussion (10 minutes). Presentations may be given in any language. Please choose German or English for the presentation slides.

Please send us your abstract in the language in which you would like to give the presentation, including a translation into German, English, or French. The abstract should not exceed 300 words (in one language, excluding references). Please send your submission to sprachlehr-lernforschung@univie.ac.at by 1 September 2024. You will be informed about the acceptance of your submission on 3 October 2024.