Highlights:

- Letter from President
- Publication opportunities and Conference Calls
- RC25 AWARDS 2023
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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Letter from the President:
Maintaining RC25 research community vibrant and stable

Dear RC25 members,
Dear colleagues,

First of all, thank you very much for your support to the new executive board members. We will collaborate as a team to maintain our RC25 research community vibrant and stable in our term, 2023-2027.

As I mentioned at the RC25 business meeting in Melbourne (19:30-20:50, Tuesday, 27 June 2023, MCEC 111), I somehow accidentally joined RC25 in 2013, one year before the ISA Yokohama Congress and in 2014 I jumped in RC25 executive board. Since then, I’ve witnessed the hard work of our presidents. They have made tremendous efforts to keep RC25 enjoyable and meaningful for members.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my profound gratitude to Amado Alarcon (2014-2018) and Stéphanie Cassilde (2018-2023) for their dedicated contribution to RC25, and also to Celine-Marie Pascale (2010-2014) for having invited me to join such a wonderful community.

As you all know, or rather as you all have experienced, we had severe challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic which began early 2020 and spread all over the world so fast. The IV ISA Forum of Sociology was initially to be held in Porto Alegre, Brazil in 2020 but was once postponed and finally held in fully virtual format in February 23-28, 2021. As Stéphanie gives a detail in the Q4 2020 issue of RC25 newsletter, “In April 2020, we learnt about the postponement of the Forum, and in September 2020 the shift from an on-site event to an online conference was confirmed.” Those turbulent changes seriously affected all the members and RC25 program coordinators, Stéphanie Cassilde, Amado Alarcon and Keiji Fujiyoshi saw a huge number of withdrawals and were forced to reorganize many sessions which had lost some or many of their presenters. And we lost about two thirds of the good standing members at that time if my memory is correct. You can see the intended RC25 program at the Porto Alegre Forum before the decision of the fully virtual format in the Q4 2020 supplement issue of RC25 newsletter. This hard work was conducted by the strong initiative of the then RC25 president, Stéphanie Cassilde. It should be taken in the record of our activity. The current board members respect and appreciate her dedicated efforts.

I am thinking about some measures which may keep RC25 vibrant and stable more systematically and hopefully more efficiently. We will go step by step and we appreciate your suggestion as well as your commitment.

---

1. Reorganizing the Scientific Editorial Board for Language, Discourse and Society

1-1. BOARD as a pool of paper reviewer

Reorganizing the Scientific Editorial Board (hereafter “the BOARD”) for Language, Discourse and Society (LDS) is among my plans for securing the vibrancy and stability of RC25 activities. You can see the list of board members in page 3 of the June 2023 issue of the RC25 journal. The BOARD has ten members now. According to the RC25 custom so far, we have no definition of the BOARD and no description about the BOARD member’s obligation.

Our journal has enjoyed a high reputation for years thanks to the tremendous work of our devoted Editor-in-Chief, Anna Odrowaz-Coates and her fantastic team. However, the more reputation it enjoys, the more troublesome its editorial work becomes. Our journal needs more workforce, especially for reviewing submitted papers whose number has been growing issue by issue.

Hence, I am thinking about transforming the BOARD into a team of potential reviewers for the journal. A BOARD member is expected to review at least one submitted paper per year at the request of the editorial board.

The executive board members will join the BOARD and I would like to invite you to take a role of the BOARD member as a potential reviewer if you wish to do something more than presenting a paper to a RC25 session every two years (at a Congress and a Forum).

By principle, a BOARD member is required to be a good standing member both of ISA and RC25, and also is required to have Ph.D or equivalent expertise in appropriate research area. You are eligible to take a role of BOARD member if you are a good standing RC25 member and have Ph.D (There may be some members outside the RC25 on the consensus of the executive board).

Please send us e-mail with your information below if you are interested in joining us as a BOARD member. We, new executive board, are sincerely looking forward to your participation.

Name:
Year you first joined RC25:
Country where you work:
Affiliation and Post:
Institute and Year of your Ph.D conferment:
or
Description of your expertise in specific research area (up to 20 words):
Language of your academic use:
Research area (up to eight keywords):

The information should be sent to both:
Frida Petersson (RC25 Vice president), frida.petersson@socwork.gu.se
Beatriz Xavier (RC25 Secretary), xavier.beatriz@gmail.com

1-2. BOARD as a pool of potential executive member

Every four-year term, we need some scholars to take a role of executive board members, editorial board members, etc., and recruitment has usually been based on personal relationships. My intention is not to replace those relationships with the pool but to enhance

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and strengthen the former with the latter. When you join the BOARD as a lay member, you will see how the intellectual production is being made in RC25 and you will also know whom you are working with in that process. Those experiences may make RC25 activities closer and more intimate to you. I hope it will also make you interested in taking a role of RC25 executive board member.

Bluntly speaking, I think that most of RC25 members are capable of handling the business of executive board. I also think, however, being capable is a different thing from being available. Some of you may be too occupied with the administrative work at your affiliation or domestic and regional academic association, social activities, or family matters, to devote your time to fully serving RC25. In short, capability, availability, and reliability are all different from one another.

If the BOARD works well, we will be able to find some scholars to run for an executive board position of the next term more easily.

I know that there are some members who expect a competitive election where more than one candidate run for one position. But I suppose that many of our members are humble and tend to avoid to compete with their colleagues for any board position. Anyway, we have fifty plus members in RC25 now and I don’t think we can expect a competitive election of the board member so far.

2. Promoting RC25 interim conference

We saw a huge success of the RC25 international conference held in Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya, July 2022 thanks to the wonderful efforts of Phyllis W. Mwangi, Gatitu Kiguru of RC25 and their Kenyan colleagues. It was the first time for RC25 members to formally meet in African continent, though almost in virtual format, and it served as a good opportunity for African young scholars to get involved in the international discussion on language and society. You can read a report of the conference by Phyllis and Gatitu in page 6 of the Q4 2022 issue of the RC25 Newsletter5.

In this term, Anna Odrowaz-Coates and her Polish colleagues are planning the international conference supported by some domestic and international institutions together with RC25, which is expected to be held in Warsaw, Poland in 2024 (19-20.09.2024). Phyllis and Gatitu are also thinking about hosting the second RC25 international conference (hopefully on-site this time) in Nairobi, Kenya in 2026. RC25 executive board will do their best to make those conferences successful and fruitful.

3. Readers meet an author session online

This is just in my mind and I don’t have a concrete and clear picture of it yet. As mentioned in a previous section, we have a high reputation journal, LDS as our precious intellectual asset6. I think it is a good platform for us to share some information and insights on language and society. If you find an article interesting in LDS and would like to exchange and share ideas with the author, we will try to invite the author to an online session to talk about his/her article and provide some thoughts to your questions. I hope this kind of session will enhance and strengthen our internal academic network in RC25. I really appreciate your suggestion.

We have been forced to interact online due to COVID-19 pandemic but we found some merits of those virtual interactions. I hope I can make good use of those technologies for RC25. I appreciate your participation and commitment.

6 https://www.language-and-society.org/lds-issues/
4. Keeping RC25 website updated

The ISA website has official RC/WG/TG pages respectively. You can see the activities of every RC/WG/TG there⁷. 35 RCs among 57 have their own website and many of them have a Facebook or Twitter (X) account, which shows how important those groups think the online communication and announcement. You can see the overview of each RC/WG/TG’s online activities in the table below⁸.

Table: What Links Each RC/WG/TG has in the ISA Official Website
(“Y” means yes.)

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⁸ This survey was conducted by Frida Petersson, Vice President and Beatriz Xavier, Secretary of RC25. Much appreciated.
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Fortunately, RC25 has a wonderful website thanks to our highly skilled former Webmaster, Maud Mazaniello-Chezol but appropriately and timely maintaining our base in cyberspace may be a kind of challenge in the future.

I am interested in how other RCs take care of their websites if they have. My interest goes especially to what server they use as host. For example, RC03 Community Research has its website at [https://www.upo.es/cspl/rc03-isa/] and it is in the website of Universidad Pablo de Olavide in Spain and RC10 Participation, Organizational Democracy and Self-Management has its website at [http://moodle2.f.bg.ac.rs/course/view.php?id=47] which is sustained by University of Belgrade. Supposedly, a former or current member of executive board of those RCs are affiliated to these institutions.

Setting the RC website in a particular university is sometimes bothering. It might be obliged to move from one university to another with the change of the board member every four years.

Some RCs have their website on the online free service such as Wordpress or Wixsite. Actually, I don’t know much about such online services.

RC25 has its own URL [https://www.language-and-society.org/] and its content is now held in a commercial hosting service. We will continue to think about how to maintain our website sustainable and reliable. We are looking forward to welcoming you who are interested in website handling with our current webmaster Laura Odasso.

5. About diversity in language
We are RC25 on Language and Society and we should be careful about language issues. The ISA lists English, French and Spanish as its official language and it encourages saying, “Although English is the administrative language of ISA, the Association does have three official languages, English, French and Spanish. Presentations are primarily in these three official languages. However, RC/WG/TGs are encouraged to support language diversity.” in a

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9 [https://www.language-and-society.org/]
section “Linguistic Diversity” of “Guidelines for Program Coordinators and Session Organizers” of XX ISA World Congress of Sociology in Melbourne[^10].

I agree that linguistic diversity should be respected and supported and I know such words as “linguistic imperialism” or “cultural imperialism”. Having said that, I also know that I can exchange views and thoughts on specific issues with colleagues from many other countries thanks to English. In this sense, I think that we should use English as de facto lingua franca on the one hand. On the other hand, we should support presentations in several languages in conferences, slides in English and speech in French or Spanish, for example. Which language should be used to present a paper in an international conference is itself an interesting problem. We will continue to discuss it.

I am looking forward to working with all of you to keep RC25 stimulating and enjoyable. Thank you.

Stay safe and take care,
Keiji Fujiyoshi
President of RC25 (2023-2027)

*Followed by the document for the RC25 Business Meeting in the next page.

ISA RC25 Business Meeting Part 2
19:30-20:50, Tuesday, 27 June 2023, MCEC 111

Introduction and Recruitment of the RC25 board officers and other positions

Stéphanie Cassilde, President
Keiji Fujiyoshi, Vice President

Dear RC25 colleagues,
Thank you very much for staying here.
The roles of board officers and other staff members are crucial for maintaining the RC25 vibrant and stable. Hence, we board members should take care of finding new board members who will take over our work as well as managing usual tasks we face.
We can summarize our mission as board into three elements below:
- taking care of membership in good standing
- organizing the ISA Congresses and Fora
- enhancing the RC25 potential as research community
As we all experience, we live different spheres of life as a person: researcher, teacher, institutional administrator, as well as mother, father, community organizer, etc. Taking a role of the board officer is different from being just a scholar and it requires some amount of time. We appreciate your will and time to take care of our research community of RC25.
Here are the descriptions of each position of the board. Thank you very much for your interest!
Please note: **Executive board members are elected by the votes of all the RC25 good standing members and all the good standing members are qualified to run for any position of the board.**

**President:**
- works as manager of the RC25 community and as an interface between the ISA executive board and the RC25 community;
- takes a role of Program Coordinator at every ISA Congress and Forum together with some members.

**Vice President:**
- supports president’s work and exchanges views and observations with president when needed.

**Treasurer:**
- takes care of the money of RC25;
- shows an insight about spending money for something at consultation;
- collects money from participants at the welcome dinner at each ISA Congress and Forum.

**Secretary:**
- takes care of the RC25 member list;
- disseminate information to the members;
- manages an online election of the board members.

**Newsletter Editor:**
- collects items and edit them into a biannual newsletter and disseminate it to members
Webmaster:
- keeps the RC25 website (https://www.language-and-society.org/) updated;
- creates and takes care of submission page on the website for the RC25 journal *Language, Discourse and Society* and for the RC25 interim conferences;
- is required a high level of IT skill and knowledge.

Journal Editor (Editor in Chief):
- takes care of tasks involved (finding thematic editors, paper reviewers) so that the journal *Language, Discourse and Society* be published twice a year constantly;
- supervises the work of editorial board members so that they get more matured and expertized as editorial staff.

Melbourne 2023. World Congress of Sociology ISA. Prof. Keiji Fujiyoshi. Photo taken by Anna Odrowaz-Coates
Current Officers (2018-2023):
President: Stéphanie Cassilde, Belgium. stephanie.cassilde@roninstitute.org
Vice President: Keiji Fujiyoshi, Japan. fjosh524@hotmail.com
Treasurer: Mark Fifer Seilhamer, Singapore. mark.seilhamer@nie.edu.sg
Secretary: Beatriz Xavier, Portugal. xavier.beatriz@gmail.com
Newsletter Editor: Anna Odrowaz-Coates, Poland. acoates@aps.edu.pl
Webmaster: Maud Mazaniello-Chézol, Canada. maud.mazaniello-chezol@mail.mcgill.ca
Journal Editor: Anna Odrowaz-Coates, Poland. journal@language-and-society.org

It is desirable to have co-secretary, co-newsletter editor, and co-webmaster outside the board in order to secure the stability of the board business procedure and in order to keep potential board officers.

Current Staff Members:
Co-Newsletter Editor: Idalina Odziemczyk, Poland. idalina.odziemczyk@gmail.com
Co-Webmaster: Laura Odasso, France. laura.odasso@college-de-france.fr

Executive Editor: Magdalena Lemanczyk, Poland. m.lemanczyk@isppan.waw.pl
Thematic Editor: Gatitu Kiguru, Kenya. kiguru.gatitu@ku.ac.ke
Thematic Editor: Phyllis W. Mwangi, Kenya. pwmwangi514@gmail.com
Thematic Editor: Cecilio Lapresta-Rey, Spain. cecilio.lapresta@udl.cat
Book Review Editor: Chika Kitano, Japan. dekura23@fc.ritsumei.ac.jp

Award Committee:
Cecilio Lapresta-Rey (Chair), Spain. ... Erzsébet Barát, Hungary in the next term.
Gatitu Kiguru, Kenya.
Elisabeth Torrico, Chile.
Mónica Ibáñez, Spain.

Scientific Editorial Board for Language, Discourse and Society:
Stéphanie Cassilde, Ronin Institute for Independent Scholarship, Belgium.
Amado Alarcon, Universitat Rovira i Virgili, Spain.
Anna Odrowaz-Coates, Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland.
Keiji Fujiyoshi, Otemon Gakuin University, Japan.
Viviane Melo Resende, University of Brasilia, Brazil.
Christian Karner, The University of Nottingham, United Kingdom.
Federico Farini, University Campus Suffolk, United Kingdom.
Nadezhda Georgieva-Stankova, Trakia University, Bulgaria.
Trinidad Valle, Fordham University, USA.
Maud Mazaniello-Chézol, McGill University, Canada.

Session organizers at each ISA World Congress and Forum:
Program coordinators are usually appointed by the RC25 president and they prepare the “Call for Session Proposal.” In response to the call, interested members make up a session proposal to be utilized as “Call for Papers”. Some members apply independently but program coordinators usually approach some other members to apply in order to fill the session slots designated by the ISA.
NEWS FROM THE EDITOR IN CHIEF

Introducing the New newsletter co-editor

Please meet Dr. Teruhiro Yamakita (Teru) from Nihon University in Japan. He joined RC25 this year and presented a paper at the Melbourne Congress in June 2023. [https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/wc2023/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/140223](https://isaconf.confex.com/isaconf/wc2023/meetingapp.cgi/Paper/140223)

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Idalina Odziemczyk-Stawarz from Jagiellonian University in Cracov, Poland, for her involvement with the newsletter in the last few years.

"Toyoko", Kabukicyo in Tokyo: Youth homeless people next to the "Godzilla"

Introducing the New Team Member in the Editorial Office of LDS

We cordially welcome Dr. Ewa Dąbrowa from the Institute of Education, Maria Grzegorzewska University, who has joined the Editorial Office as the assistant editor responsible for obtaining DOI numbers for the articles. It has been an ongoing struggle to resolve the issue of DOI and we are very pleased to report it will now be possible to add digital identification to the works we publish. We are also very happy to confirm that Elsevier extended our SCOPUS indexing until the end of 2026, before the next review. Ewa is an Expert in the Council of University Experts for Education and Integration of Migrants and Refugees.
RC25 AWARDS 2023

We are pleased to announce that Professor Celine-Marie Pascale has been awarded the Distinguished Career Award of RC25.

Dr. Judit Kroo, has been awarded the Award for Academic Excellence of RC25 ISA on the basis of her article, "Discourses of Anticipatory Futures Among Contemporary Japanese Younger Adults" published in Language and Society, June 2021.

The Awards will be granted at the conference in Warsaw, which will take place on March 21-22, 2024. Please accept our heartfelt congratulations! Awards will be officially handed over in March 2024 at the conference in Warsaw please see page 17*.

Prof. Celine-Marie Pascale is one of the founding members of our RC25 and the LDS journal. She is a leading scholar in the field of language and society. Her research examines how language and representation are used to create and normalize systemic inequalities. Pascale’s scholarship on the relationship between systems of signification and social/economic inequalities has been acknowledged with national and international awards for uniquely important contributions to the field. She is also a Professor Emerita of the American University in Washington DC.

Dr. Judit Kroo is an Assistant Professor at the Japanese Linguistics and Comparative Cultural Studies, School of International Letters and Cultures, Arizona State University.

The Award Committee convened as follows:
The Chair of the Award Committee:
Prof. Erzsebet Barat PhD / @Institute of English and American Studies University of Szeged & Department of Gender Studies Central European University, Vienna, Austria
Committee Members:
- Frida Petersson PhD (Deputy Head of Department of Social Work, Göteborgs Universitet, Sweden
- Stéphanie Casilde PhD (Ronin Institute), Belgium
- Magdalena Lemańczyk PhD, (Department of German Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences)

Image retrieved from Dr Magdalena’s Lemanczyk Facebook page, October 2023.
CALL FOR PAPERS for June 2024 ISSUE of LDS - Melbourne World Congress of Sociology

Although we receive a steady flow of papers (more contributions that we can process), we wish to offer to fast-track the articles based on presentations from the RC25 sessions in Melbourne.

IMPORTANT DATES:
- 31st of December 2023: Due date for submission
- February-March 2024: Feedback from the reviewers
- March-April 2024: Submission of the revised articles
- June 2024: Publication of the special issue

GUEST EDITORS:
Keiji Fujiyoshi (Otemon Gakuin University, Japan)  fjosh524@hotmail.com
Rika Yamashita (Kanto Gakuin University, Japan)  rikayam1@kanto-gakuin.ac.jp

This thematic issue from the Melbourne World Congress of Sociology will be published in June 2024.

SUBMISSION (IMPORTANT)
- Please make sure you use the template for the style of fonts and references. Due to a high number of submissions, papers not adhering to our style will not be considered or accepted.
- The template in WORD format is available in the Instructions for Authors point 11. https://www.language-and-society.org/language-discourse-society/instructions
- Please send your papers directly to the above Guest Editors, with the name of the session you presented in the Melbourne Congress to use the opportunity for fast-tracking.

FYI: UPCOMING SPECIAL ISSUES
For publication in: December 2024 - Gender and language
June 2025 - Discourses on War in the 21st Century
CALL FOR PAPERS for December 2024 ISSUE of LDS

Gender and Language

“Narratives and discourses related to naming, with a special focus on contemporary practices of women's choice of name after marriage and/or divorce in various socio-cultural contexts around the world”

Important dates:

- **10th December 2023**: Submission of abstract (1000 words), indicating major references (not included in the word limit)
- **15th January 2024**: Notification from editors on acceptance
- **30th June 2024**: Due date for submission
- **1st September 2024**: Feedback from reviewers
- **1st October 2024**: Submission of revised articles

This thematic issue will be published in **December 2024**.

*Guest Editors:*

**Erzsébet Barát** (Central European University, Vienna, Austria)

**Joanna Pawłowska** (The Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)

Recently, the topic of choosing ‘surnames’ after marriage and choosing family names for children has become common and widely discussed around the world. A few years ago, the Tokyo High Court dismissed an appeal by several women who challenged a century-old law requiring only one surname in the family. This law means that in practice the vast majority of women are forced to take their husband's surname. Meanwhile, according to the judgment of the Constitutional Court in Italy from April 2022, children will also be able to receive their mother’s surname, not only their father's. The Tribunal (Constitutional Court) found the exclusive practice of assigning the father's surname inconsistent with the Italian Constitution and the European Convention on Human Rights. The justification emphasized that the previous rule made the mother "invisible" and is a sign of inequality between parents. It seems that the issue of naming is gaining in importance today, indexing a social tension in the patriarchal social order. Therefore, we invite papers that revisit the power to name and categorize through a nuanced analysis, exploring the different forms of social injustice mediated by linguistic practices of naming as well as exploring examples of their successful contestations. The focus is on narratives related to women's lived experience of choosing their name after marriage in various socio-cultural contexts around the world, situated in the broader context of naming in women’s life. We expect studies analyzing the normalizing as well as the disruptive potential of naming practices, drawing on data collected through diverse methods, such as ethnographic, netnographic, or archival ones. We call for papers that consider language use as a topic for analysis instead of considering linguistic data as a mere source of knowledge. We invite papers that are focused on the contemporary social scene, exploring the reasons for the changes in naming, and the effects of particular choices of names in women’s life.
In anticipation of papers studying the relationship between naming and power, the possible areas of exploration may cover but are not limited to:

- the role of a surname in a person's presentation of identity in different institutions;
- the influence of cultural institutions and established habits on shaping a woman's decision on naming in the context of marriage;
- the narratives of identity about the choice of surname;
- the perception of the choices women make by women themselves and those around them;
- the difference gay marriage may make to these conventions;
- working on linguistic styles in self-construction and self-presentation through naming practices;
- the intersection of various power relations (such as class, race, religiosity, etc.) played out in the choice of names;
- naming and contemporary plights of women fighting the resurgence of the patriarchal order, the hardening of exclusionary practices of gender;
- the role language (specifically naming practices) plays in women’s struggles against their oppression/invisibilization through the legislator’s renewed attempts at normalizing family names, titles, and professional identity.

We are particularly interested in the clearly presented methodological and theoretical approaches selected by the Authors of the proposed articles. Research-based papers will be given priority.

Please refer to the guidelines for Authors: https://www.language-and-society.org/language-discourse-society/instructions/

Contributors should submit the e-copy of their manuscript to the editors of this Special Issue at jpsd16@aps.edu.pl; zsazsa@lit.u-szeged.hu

The language of submitted articles should be English.

Please follow the author guidelines indicated in the URL, which includes a template for formatting (Point 11 in Author guidelines). It is only manuscripts that meet the formal requirements that will be reviewed and considered for publication.
INVITATION FOR A CONFERENCE IN WARSAW 21-22.03.2023*

RC 25 is the honorary patron

Supporting the social inclusion of children and young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities

The importance of the interdisciplinary approach

(21-22.03.2024 Warsaw, Poland)

We are pleased to invite presentations for the upcoming conference on “Supporting the social inclusion of children and young people with intellectual and developmental disabilities: The importance of the interdisciplinary approach”. The conference is co-funded by the EU project titled: “Removal of barriers to social inclusion and social participation for children and young adults with Intellectual and developmental disabilities” [SIIDD], which has been operational since 2019 between 7 European universities based in Sweden, Norway, England, Scotland, Northern Ireland, Romania and Poland. More about the project: https://siidd.eu/

Our project highlights the importance of multi-professional, interdisciplinary approaches to supporting the individual needs of children and adults with IDD and their families. We invite researchers, who identify tools and strategies in health, social work and education for social inclusion and for fostering interprofessional, cross-sector collaboration. We are also interested in works related to prevention and best practices for combatting barriers to social inclusion. We
invite professionals from education, special pedagogy, social work, health service, nursing, and rehabilitation to join us for this important conference in Warsaw, Poland.

The event will start at about 14.00 on the 21st of March 2024 (Thursday) and will finish at about 16.00 on the 22nd of March 2024 (Friday). It will take place at The Maria Grzegorzewska University in Warsaw, Poland, which is the hub of special pedagogy, children’s rights, and social inclusion in Eastern-Central Europe. Map.

The University is located 20 mins. Ride from the Chopin Airport in Warsaw and a 10 mins. walk from the Zachodnia Train Station. The nearest hotel is IBIS Reduta and IBIS budget, located in Ochota district, only 3 mins. walk from the University’s campus.

Expressions of interest and a short 150 words abstract should be registered in the online system: https://konferencje.aps.edu.pl/inclusion/ Deadline for registration of abstracts: 10.02.2024.

Scientific Committee:
Prof. e. Margareta Ahlström, Stockholm University, Sweden
Dr Jude Tah, Stockholm University, Sweden
Prof. dr hab. Anna Odrowaz-Coates, The Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland
Prof. dr hab. Joanna Madalińska-Michalak, University of Warsaw (UW), Poland
Prof. Michael Brown, Queens University, Belfast, UK
Dr Lynne Marsh, Queens University, Belfast, UK
Paul McAleer, Prof. Lead Learning Disability Nursing, Queens University, Belfast, UK
Prof. Florica Ortan, University of Oradea, Romania
Prof. Dr Julien Kiss, University of Oradea, Romania
Gamu Tendayi, Prof. Lead Learning Disability Nursing, University of Hertfordshire, UK
Prof. Anna Perkowska-Klejman, The Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland
Prof. Dariusz Stepkowski, Cardinal Wyszyński University (UKSW), Poland
Sam Abdulla, Academic Lead for Practice Learning, Edinburgh Napier University
Prof. Keiji Fujiyoshi, President of ISA RC25, Japan

Local Organizing Committee:
Dr Cecilia Zsögön
Dr Marta Kulesza
Dr Ewa Dąbrowa (Editor of the edited volume) edab@aps.edu.pl
Prof. Błażej Przybylski (PTP)
Dr Elżbieta Strutyńska-Laskus (PTP)

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY
If you wish to publish your paper in the UNESCO Chair’s book series, please adhere to a short instruction* and send your paper to the volume editor Dr Ewa Dąbrowa edab@aps.edu.pl by 10.02.2024 at the very latest. We aim to have the book published by the time of the event to share it with conference participants. Volume working title: Acceptance, Participation, Solidarity. The importance of the interdisciplinary approach. 2024.
Honorary Patronages

RC25 ISA, Polish Educational Research Association (PTP O. Warszawa), UNESCO Chair

The event is co-funded by European Union under Erasmus+ 2019-1-SE01-KA203-060425.

*Papers should be in English, max. 12 pages long: Times New Roman 12, with references APA 6 style. If the references are not in English a translation of the titles in [square bracket] should follow each entry. When you quote or refer to please use citations in brackets, not in footnotes (Smith 1989, 3). Full reference entries including all bibliographical data should be placed at the end, in the reference list.
Researching discursive and linguistic barriers to social inclusion

RC25 ISA midterm conference in Warsaw (19–20th of September 2024)

Aims and Scope

The conference aims to foster discussion among sociologists, sociolinguists, educators, and activists aware of the language and discourse issues; and any other social scientists interested in relations between language and society, and how the inclusion and exclusion are created by the medium of language and discourse. The conference falls onto 20th anniversary of the UNESCO Janusz Korczak Chair in Social Pedagogy creating opportunities to extend the RC25 network.

During the conference, we wish to look at language and through language. Any research investigating language and discourse is welcome, as all theoretical and methodological frameworks can be used to create socio-pedagogical and linguistic analyses of language. Here are some non-exhaustive suggestions of conference sessions. Whilst we know what submissions are supplied we will finalize this list:

- Foreign language as means of instruction
- Language landscape and social change
- Discourses of exclusion, Hate speech, Inclusive language
• Critically about linguistic praxis
• Linguistic education and policy
• Language and power
• Language in public and private spheres
• Multilingualism and plurilingualism
• Language and transnationalism
• Language and migration
• Language and global network
• Language, identity, tradition
• Language and intersectional positioning in the public and private sphere

2 Special sessions organised by IKA, celebrating the 20th anniversary of
UNESCO Janusz Korczak Chair:

• The language of love – relevance of Korczak’s ideas on how to love a
  child;
• Korczak inspired contemporary discourses on children’s rights.

To enhance knowledge dissemination beyond linguistic borders, scholars are
welcome to present the literature they are using, and which is not available in
English. English, however, is the official communication language for the
conference.

RC 25 Language & Society is a research committee of the International
Sociological Association. The objective of the Research Committee on Language
and Society is to advance sociological knowledge concerning language in
interaction and in systems of representation. Members are united by the desire
to look at systems of communication, and how language influences social
structures and social change.

The Maria Grzegorzewska University focuses on the social inclusion of
individuals and groups that may be socially marginalized, discriminated against
or excluded. The mission of acceptance, participation and solidarity is
highlighted by the achievements of the University’s Patron: Maria Grzegorzewska
(1888-1967), the pioneer of special pedagogy in Poland, human rights activist, and
Janusz Korczak, the UNESCO Chair’s patron, writer, medical doctor, philosopher
of childhood, who worked at our university and advocated for children’s rights
(1878-1942). Please note that the UNESCO Chair celebrates its 20th anniversary,
and therefore there will be special Janusz Korczak Anniversary Medals granted at
the award ceremony accompanying the conference.

The Polish Educational Research Association was established in 1981 and is the
largest national network of educators, teachers, and pedagogues in Poland.
The Institute of Political Sciences at the Polish Academy of Sciences is a supporting partner and co-organizer of this conference. The Institute was founded in 1990 and brings together leading Polish political scientists, historians and sociologists in order to create a unique environment where innovative knowledge and policy expertise is produced. The Institute’s mission is to conduct high-level multidisciplinary research that investigates political and social change at the crossroads between East and West.

Submission process

Please submit abstracts and interests in passive participation via this dedicated website: konferencje.aps.edu.pl/rc25isa

Scholars are requested to submit paper proposals including, the title of the presentation and a short 150-250 word abstract, accompanied by 3-5 keywords. Submissions should be made online via the dedicated website.

The Scientific Committee will select papers for presentation and will notify participants of acceptance by the end of May 2024. There will also be a possibility to give distributed papers.

We try to keep the registration fee low; and dedicate it to refreshments and conference materials. Registration is mandatory also for passive participants without presentations. The registration fee will be 35 euro, or 150 PLN respectively. It covers conference materials and 2 lunches. Fee waivers are available for scholars in difficult economic situations.

Transport, accommodation, health insurance or personal expenses are not covered and should be organized by participants themselves.

Deadline for abstract submission: 30th of March 2024

Results of the abstract selection: 30th of May 2024

The provisional program will be online by the 1st of July 2024.

Scientific Committee:

- Prof. Keiji Fujiyoshi, President of RC 25 ISA, Otemon Gakuin University, Japan
- Prof. Anna Odrowaz-Coates, RC25 and Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland
- Prof. dr hab. Joanna Madalińska-Michalak, University of Warsaw (UW), Poland, PTP
- Prof. Dariusz Stępkowski, Cardinal Wyszyński University (UKSW), Poland, PTP
- Dr. Frida Petersson, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
- Dr. Rika Yamashita, Kanto Gakuin University, Japan
• Prof. Beatriz Xavier, Universidade Nova Lisboa. Lisboa, Lisboa, Portugal
• Dr. Stéphanie Cassilde, Ronin Institute, Belgium
• Prof. Błażej Przybylski (PTP), Poland
• Dr Elżbieta Strutyńska-Laskus (PTP), Poland
• Dr Mariusz Baranowski Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland
• Dr Magdalena Lemańczyk Institute of Political Studies, PAS, Poland, RC 25 ISA
• Prof. Michał Kwiatkowski, Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland
• Prof. Barbara Pasamonik, Polish Sociological Association, Poland
• Prof. Jarosław Rola, Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland
• Dr Cecilia Zsögön, Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland

Organizing Committee:

• Keiji Fujiyoshi, President of RC 25 ISA, Japan
• Anna Odrowąż-Coates (UNESCO Janusz Korczak Chair, Poland)
• Anna Perkowska-Klejman (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)
• Dr Magdalena Lemańczyk (IPS PAS, Poland, RC 25 ISA)
• Marta Kulesza (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)
• Krystyna Heland-Kurczak (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)
• Magdalena Roszak (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)
• Katarzyna Szostakowska (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)
• Anna Górka Strzałowska (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)
• Marta Wiatr (Maria Grzegorzewska University, Poland)

RC25 warmly thanks Maria Grzegorzewska University for providing the conference venue and its facilities free of charge, which enables relatively low registration fees for participants.

Organizers

• RC25 ISA
• Maria Grzegorzewska University
• Polish Educational Research Association (PTP O. w Warszawie)
• Institute of Political Studies, Polish Academy of Sciences (ISP PAS)

Patronages

• IKA International Korczak Association
• Polish Janusz Korczak Association (PSJK)
• Polish National Commission for UNESCO (if I apply we will get it)

Publication opportunities: CFP from Magda Lemańczyk and Marek Troszyński in guest editing: LDS issue for June 2025.
RECENT PUBLICATIONS by RC 25 members

Papers:


- Simon Susen (2023 [forthcoming]) ‘A New Structural Transformation of the Public Sphere? With, against, and beyond Habermas’, Society, 26 pages [https://doi.org/10.1007/s12115-023-00908-y].


VARIA – Notes from members

Exclusive sociology and Inclusive sociology’s attitudes towards language and culture

Mahmoud Dhaouadi, sociologist - Tunisia

The idea of exclusiveness

Probably, the term ‘exclusive sociology’ has not been used by contemporary sociologists. For us, exclusive sociology is the sociology which does not like to pay attention and study certain aspects of individuals and societies because Posivist sociology has a narrow epistemological view of things which deprives it from having interest in the so-called imperceived/non-tangible phenomena. For example, some anthropologists have argued against the study of culture because it is an abstraction/non-tangible. So, they asked: is culture real? In his book (The Concept of Culture, Leslie White, 1973:26), the author underlines the position of leading anthropologists. Ralph Linton raised the question: does culture exist? As to Radcliffe-Brown, he said: culture is a word that designates no concrete reality but only an abstraction, and a very vague abstraction. Another pronouncement is that of M.A.Spiro who says that culture has no ontological reality. In other words, culture is not real. Thus, the positivist spirit of this type of anthropology is exclusive to culture.

Sociology’s exclusiveness of the Other Underdevelopment

Likewise, the main stream sociology of underdevelopment excludes the recognition and the study of what I call ‘the Other Underdevelopment/OU’. In dealing with the phenomenon of underdevelopment in the Third World, Western sociologists have tended to confine themselves to the socio-economic and political sides of underdevelopment. The accumulated quantity of Western sociological literature on underdevelopment is impressive. Yet, there is hardly any reference to the other sides of underdevelopment (the OU) which we consider as a -linguistic cultural underdevelopment. It is a subcategory of the larger phenomenon of the Third World underdevelopment. We measure it by behavioural manifestations like using Western languages like English and French instead of native ones and the wide diffusion of Western cultural values in developing countries. All these factors underdevelop, so to speak, the languages and cultural values of the Third World societies. Our perspective looks at the OU as having been largely the outcome of Western imperial domination particularly of African and Asian societies.

Behind the Forgotten OU

In response to this academic and intellectual illiteracy on the OU, we would like to mention few reasons behind this Forgotten Underdevelopment. As expected, one can hardly seek any direct help from Western or Third World Western-oriented sociology in going about defining, conceptualizing and theorizing in this field of research. The sociological illiteracy on the OU needs an explanation. There are several factors behind the missing OU in Western sociology:

1-Emmanuel Wallerstein refers to a general epistemological reason which hampers all social scientists from being always objective. The editors of the book (Public Sociology, Dan Clawson & al,2007:15) cite Wallerstein as an example: « it is intrinsically impossible to keep one’s values from entering one’s scientific scholarly work”

2-Debates on the discipline of sociology continue at many levels. It is enough to mention few: Michael Burawoy’s call for Public Sociology, ISA’s invitation for multiple sociologies and Ali Meghjii’s strong advocacy of the idea of Decolonizing Sociology (mainly Western sociology). These sociological
perspectives are against the main stream sociology that embraces the idea of exclusiveness of certain phenomena as well as outsider methods and knowledge which do not belong to the main stream Western sociology.

(3) There is a general widespread attitude, especially among Western Liberal sociologists who dealt with development/underdevelopment which hints or claims that the cultural heritage (languages, values, traditions, religions, ..) of underdeveloped societies is largely an obstacle to the development process in those countries, Daniel Lerner is an example. This should explain why the OU has no place in his and other studies of modernization/development in the Third World.

**Inclusive Sociology**

It is a sociology that takes into account both tangible/material and imperceived /non-material factors which shape individual behaviors and the dynamics of societies. For instance, It rejects the mentioned anthropological exclusion of culture as imperceived/non-tangible. Rather, culture is a fundamental unique distinctive human feature. We conceptualize it as a set of non- material /imperceived items: language, thought, religion, , knowledge, myths, laws and cultural values and norms. We call them Cultural Symbols /CS/ culture. A scientific question should be raised: why culture is a unique human characteristic? The answer is to be found in something else uniquely human. it is language in its spoken and written forms. Humans are the only known species who masters the skill of writing and the sophisticated spoken language. Thus, there is a strong correlation between human culture and human language as two unique human phenomena. So, language is the Mother of CS because without it we could hardly imagine the birth of CS/ human culture.

**Tylor’s Silence on language**

The British anthropologist Edward Bernard Tylor (1871) defined the concept of culture as follows: “Culture or civilization… is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, morals, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society”. Tylor’s classical definition of culture remains implicitly silent on language while it is the constituting and the founding element/force of the phenomenon of culture itself. In other words, the relation between language and culture is of an organic nature. It is fair to say that Tylor’s definition of culture is not fully adequate because of its negligence to clearly include language as part and founding component at the same time for the crystallization of the emergence of culture. As such, Tylor’s definition of culture is not fully adequate because of its language missing link.

Thank you for reading our newsletter 😊