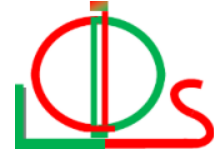




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# **BISL 2018**

## ***BIG Cities, Small LANGUAGES***

November 14-16 2018, Leibniz-Zentrum  
Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft  
Berlin / Germany

# **BIG Cities, Small LANGUAGES**

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## Conference Programme

### Wednesday, November 14, 2018

14:00 – 14:45	Welcome coffee & badge pickup
14:45 – 15:00	<b>Opening: Welcome addresses</b>
Chair: Vera Ferreira	
15:00 – 15:30	Yaron Matras (The University of Manchester) <i>'A city of 200 languages': 'small' languages in Manchester's language narrative and provision strategy</i>
15:30 – 16:00	Fabio Scetti (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – CLESTHIA) <i>The Valoc' language spoken in two urban contexts of the migration: in Argentina and in the United States of America</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Katharina Tyrán (University of Vienna) <i>Outside the scope: language maintenance of Burgenland Croatian in Vienna</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Kira Bayda (Institute of Linguistic Studies RAS, National Research University Higher School of Economics) & Victor Bayda (Lomonosov Moscow State University) <i>Irish Linguistic Landscape</i>

### Thursday, November 15, 2018

Chair: Cor van der Meer	
9:00 – 10:00	Keynote Lecture by Daniel Kaufman (Endangered Language Alliance) <i>Ways of engaging with urban linguistic diversity: A critical view from New York</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee break
10:30 – 11:00	Johanneke Buning-Oosten, Gwennan Higham, Cor van der Meer & Christina Wagoner (Fryske Akademy) <i>COMBI: promoting bilingualism for migrants in the health and social care sectors</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Guillem Belmar Viernes & Sara Pinho (University of Groningen) <i>Intelligibility of West Frisian for Dutch native speakers. 'Twatalige konversaasjes': Receptive multilingualism to boost the use of Frisian in Fryslân</i>
11:30 – 12:00	Sanita Lazdina & Heiko F. Marten (Rezekne Academy of Technology) <i>Beyond Latvian, Russian and English: Linguistic Diversity and Creativity in Society and Education in Riga</i>
12:00 – 14:00	Lunch break

Chair: Anne Schwarz	
14:00 – 14:30	Giuseppe Formato (Lesley University) & Graça Cordeiro (ISCTE-Instituto Universitário de Lisboa) <i>When linguistic variety is paramount: shared reflections on the meanings and uses of Portuguese in the Greater Boston area</i>
14:30 – 15:00	Robert Laub (School of Oriental and African Studies) <i>Portuguese Creoles: Challenges and Opportunities in Southeast Asia</i>
15:00 – 15:30	Coffee break
15:30 – 16:00	Renée Pera-Ros (Philipps-Universität Marburg) <i>The Mirror Effect, an Ally for Minoritized Languages - Migration in Catalonia</i>
16:00 – 16:30	Karsten Legère & Daniela Waldburger (Universität Wien) <i>Sub-Saharan Africa - cities and linguistic heterogeneity: The fate of small languages</i>
16:30 – 17:00	Isabel Compes (Universität zu Köln) <i>Challenges as opportunities in an urban migration setting</i>
19:00	<b>Conference dinner</b>

### Friday, November 16, 2018

Chair: Mandana Seyfeddinipur	
9:00 – 10:00	Keynote Lecture by Natalia Gagarina (Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft, Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Universität Uppsala) <i>What does storytelling in multilingual Berlin reveal about language acquisition?</i>
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee break
10:30 – 11:00	Houssine Soussi (Ibn Zohr University) <i>Internal migration and language shift in urban Morocco, the case of Amazigh speakers</i>
11:00 – 11:30	Dieter Hallwachs (treffpunkt sprachen - Plurilingualism Research Unit: Universität Graz) <i>Multilingual Graz</i>
11:30 – 12:00	<b>Panel discussion &amp; concluding remarks</b>
12:00 – 12:30	Farewell coffee

## ABSTRACTS

### Keynote Lectures

**November 15, 2018 (09:00 - 10:00)**

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**Daniel Kaufman** (Endangered Language Alliance)

***Ways of engaging with urban linguistic diversity: A critical view from New York***

I reflect on 10 years of “language work” with indigenous and immigrant communities in New York City as part of the Endangered Language Alliance. I review here the various linguistic and non-linguistic forms this work has taken but my main purpose here is to argue for a particular collaborative pattern that has become the most fruitful in our context, a pattern in which a local collaborator is given the tools to become a documentarian rather than either being treated as a mere informant or, conversely, being re-made in our own image as an apprentice linguist. The larger question here is not how to work in cities but what type of work should be carried out and who should it serve. In this vein, I discuss the importance of having (at least) one foot outside academia and being willing to go beyond linguistics when undertaking urban language work.

**November 16, 2018 (09:00 - 10:00)**

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**Natalia Gagarina** (Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft / Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin / Universität Uppsala)

***What does storytelling in multilingual Berlin reveal about language acquisition?***

Although about half of the world population is multilingual, multilingual language acquisition in children is less researched than monolingual language acquisition. Multilinguals are often assessed with tests for monolinguals, over- or underdiagnosed for developmental language disorders and are undervalued at school. Berlin is not an exception. Recently, more attention has been paid to the storytelling or narratives as an assessment instrument: Narratives were suggested to be ecologically valid for the examining of communicative competence (Botting, 2002), to be less biased against bilingual speakers as compared to other assessment instruments (Paradis et al., 2010) and to reveal a range of various abilities – from more language-specific to language-universal – as well as cognitive and social abilities (Liles, 1993).

The production of a well-formed storytelling requires a coordination of semantic, syntactic and pragmatic levels and is related to the acquisition of specific linguistic forms and semantic relations (Berman, 1988, Karmiloff-Smith, 1987). One of the principal tasks for a narrator is to learn to produce coherent macrostructure, i.e. a universal organizational outline for story knowledge (Trabasso & Nickels, 1992). This discourse organization is considered to have universal nature and is comparable across the dual languages of a bilingual child. The present talk discusses the results from the Multilingual Assessment Instrument for Narratives (MAIN; Gagarina et al., 2012, 2015) as the part of the LITMUS battery: Language Impairment Testing in Multilingual Settings and targets various home languages, spoken in Berlin.

## **Abstracts of talks** (alphabetically ordered by authors' surnames)

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**Kira Bayda** (Institute of Linguistic Studies RAS, National Research University Higher School of Economics)

**Victor Bayda** (Lomonosov Moscow State University)

### ***Irish linguistic landscape***

Today the use of Irish in business or information signs is mostly symbolic in nature, as the number of Irish-speaking monolinguals is very small. Irish is a minority Celtic language in a country dominated by English. The present research aims at assessing the use of Irish in a linguistic landscape of Ireland's capital, Dublin, and that of the biggest city connected with the Gaeltacht (Irishspeaking) region, Galway, on the basis of their linguistic landscapes. These two cities are quite different in their relation to Irish: Dublin is home to the largest number of "daily" Irish speakers outside the Gaeltacht while situated in a traditionally English-language area whereas Galway is situated next to the largest Gaeltacht with parts of the city itself officially belonging to the Gaeltacht.

In this study we compare linguistic landscape data, comprising more than 400 commercial and information signs, from two districts of each city — a central shopping street and a quiet residential area — in order to assess the influence of such factors as tourism and language policy on the use of Irish-language inscriptions. The results show, that the two cities differ in the patterns of functional use of Irish. Virtually all street signs are bilingual in both cities due to a top-down language policy. The main difference is that whereas in Dublin commercial use of Irish is low throughout the city, in Galway a contrast between the center and the periphery of the city can be seen: the central district is highly influenced by Galway's touristic image of a "bilingual city" and by the work of language activists, while residential areas of the city are influenced by this trend to a much lesser extent.

**Johanneke Buning-Oosten** (Fryske Akademy)

**Gwennan Higham** (Fryske Akademy)

**Cor van der Meer** (Fryske Akademy)

**Christina Wagoner** (Fryske Akademy)

### ***COMBI: promoting bilingualism for migrants in the health and social care sectors***

As a result of 4.7 million people migrating to one of Europe's 28 member states within a year, language communities are undergoing challenges concerning how to integrate migrants, including providing adequate linguistic training for the labour market<sup>1</sup>. In communities where minority languages are spoken, migrants are usually required to learn the state language, while requirements to learn the minority language often do not exist<sup>2</sup>. However, in some work environments, such as the health and social care sectors, minority language skills are important or even essential, and lack of minority language skills can reduce the quality of care delivered<sup>3</sup>.

This presentation will introduce the work of the COMBI project and its approach to this challenge. By means of a survey carried out in five EU minority language regions, results concerning language skills and attitudes of migrants in bilingual work settings will be discussed as well as attitudes of language tutors, health care management and vocational trainers towards the acquisition of the minority language. Following this, the paper will discuss the project's tools developed for vocational trainers to create language courses that match the reality of the workplace and which

take the minority language into account. The paper will finally question how to ensure that minority languages receive recognition and training opportunities in health care settings, without hampering the access of migrants to this job sector.

### **Endnotes**

- <sup>1</sup> Eurostat. (2017). Migration and migrant population statistics. [Online] Eurostat: Statistics Explained. Retrieved from [http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statisticsexplained/index.php/Migration\\_and\\_migrant\\_population\\_statistics](http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statisticsexplained/index.php/Migration_and_migrant_population_statistics).
- <sup>2</sup> Higham, G. (2018) A report on migrants and the role of the Minority language in healthcare: A theoretical and practical analysis. Retrieved from <http://combiproject.eu/wpcontent/uploads/COMBI-output-O1.pdf>.
- <sup>3</sup> Wagoner, C. (2017). Language Capacity Building and Strengthening in the Welsh Statutory Education and Health and Social Sectors. PhD. Cardiff.

**Isabel Compes** (Universität zu Köln)

### ***Challenges as opportunities in an urban migration setting***

**Keywords:** migration, Africa, Zaghawa, urban setting, endangerment, social practices.

This presentation focuses on a small language in a multilingual urban setting in Africa – namely the Zaghawa language in the capital of the Republic of the Sudan. At the confluence of the Blue and the White Niles, the capital Khartoum forms together with the cities of Omdurman and Bahri the fourth largest urban agglomeration on the African continent. Due to internal displacements caused by draughts and the civil wars, this city region has been growing to estimated 8 mill. inhabitants. In this multilingual setting, the Zaghawa language originally spoken in North Darfur is one of around 70 indigenous languages of the Sudan. Besides Arabic and English as official working languages, the status of national languages is assigned to all indigenous languages in the Interim National Constitution. However, the Arabicization policy of the Sudan prevents their recognition in the school system and in the official culture.

The aim of the talk is to give a picture of the Zaghawa language in this challenging, new sociocultural context and at the same time to uncover its opportunities. It is based on three sources: a small sociolinguistic survey, language data of two mid-aged women – both collected as part of an ELDP-project in 2015 – and finally, insights from an Orthography Workshop held in Khartoum in 2018. The outcome of the survey and the analysis of the language data point to the decline of the linguistic vitality. On the other hand, discussions with the Zaghawa community at the Orthography Workshop reveal that the new conditions also initiated activities as the establishment of the Zaghawa Cultural Center that otherwise would not had crossed people's mind. In this line of reasoning, within this migration setting the speech community has already begun to change by adopting new social practices.



**Giuseppe Formato** (Lesley University)

**Graça Cordeiro** (ISCTE-Instituto Universitário de Lisboa)

***When linguistic variety is paramount: shared reflections on the meanings and uses of Portuguese in the Greater Boston area***

**Keywords:** heritage learner, linguistic variety, ideal-selves, pluricentricity, language acquisition, Portuguese

Based Giuseppe Formato's doctoral research and the ongoing postdoctoral research of Graça Cordeiro on the cultural meanings of the Portuguese language in Boston, this project aims to discuss the paradoxical relationship between a language conceived as unique and the plurality of its uses and representations in a complex urban context. This reflection begins with GF's research on the impact that teaching a given Portuguese variant / dialect has on the motivation / demotivation of those who learn the language to approach their cultural heritage. These heritage learners are descendants of immigrants from different world regions where Portuguese exists in a multitude of varieties that are enrolled in Portuguese courses. While some acquire Portuguese easily, others feel disconnected.

Through interpretative phenomenological analysis based on a sample of heritage learners enrolled in a Portuguese course at a university in Boston, this research focused on how the attitudes and identity processes of these learners manifest themselves throughout their language classes. Findings point to the importance of the link between the language variety taught and the variant of the student's heritage in identity construction and consequently in the way in which this adequacy is vital for their academic success. GF's study is one aspect of the ethnographic research that GC has developed on the social construction of 'Portuguese-Speaker' in Massachusetts. The divergent relationship between the "Portuguese language", in the singular, based on a political, ideological, and normative definition, and the plurality of its daily practices derives from the national, regional, and dialectical diversity of the different immigrant "heritages" in this urban territory, as well as the emergence of new ways of speaking Portuguese. These new ways of interacting reveal an increasingly pluricentric language in a more globalized world that challenges the borders of official recognition of only two linguistic standards, European and Brazilian.

**Dieter Hallwachs** (treffpunkt sprachen - Plurilingualism Research Unit: Universität Graz)

***Multilingual Graz***

With over 170 nationalities living in Graz, the city's population, without doubt, represents a multicultural and multilingual society. In order to document the linguistic plurality of Graz, the Plurilingualism Research Unit of treffpunkt sprachen at the University of Graz launched the Multilingual Graz research initiative in 2009. Multilingual Graz cooperates with and involves both plurilingual speakers and their associations as well as educational institutions, the municipal authorities, and the general public. To this end, different methodological approaches and strategies of dissemination are pursued, which include exhibition formats to present Linguistic Landscape research, film and digital formats and other interactive presentation and dissemination tools.

As far as academic research is concerned, Multilingual Graz moved from language descriptions and language biographies to more in-depth studies of linguistic communities in Graz. The study Language dynamics of multilingual communities in Graz, analyzed the sociolinguistic situation of three communities:

- Speakers of Farsi of whom some are proficient in other languages of their region of origin;
- Speakers of Kinyarwanda- and Kirundi, who in addition to Swahili as lingua franca of their region of origin use the former colonial languages English and/or French;
- Speakers of Turkish, who often additionally use other languages from their region of origin, predominantly Kurmanji.

The project sought to investigate the complex interplay of prestige, functionality, and the role of the speakers' linguistic repertoires in processes of identity formation in the migration context by analyzing language use, language attitudes, and practices of language transmission.

Language ideologies and language policies in Austria as well as the countries of origin shape perceptions on languages per se and language use to a great extent. Additionally, language transmission is shown to correlate with the level of education, political orientation, processes of identity formation, and prestige of the language variety in use.

### **Contact**

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**Robert Laub** (School of Oriental and African Studies)

### ***Portuguese creoles: challenges and opportunities in Southeast Asia***

The Portuguese creoles of Southeast Asia emerged during the European colonization period beginning in the 16th Century in ports of commercial importance, where linguistically heterogeneous communities were present. In this paper I look at the effects of urban settings on the level of endangerment in three Portuguese-lexified creoles: Batavia Creole, from Indonesia, which went extinct (Maurer 2011); Makista, from Macau, which is moribund (Ansaldò and Matthews 2004); and Kristang, from Malaysia, which is endangered (Moseley 2010).

I discuss two arguments: a) the presence of other prestigious languages increases the risk of endangerment of urban languages, and b) urban settings provide opportunities of cultural and linguistic development.

Having originated in cities with other languages present, they were likely negatively impacted by the presence of languages with higher prestige. The current statuses of these languages show how an urban environment can have an impact on how widespread a language can be.

The 21st Century has seen development in both Malacca and Macau. While providing opportunity to these cities, it also threatens lifestyles and contexts where these languages are used. In the case of Kristang, development is currently transforming Malacca in profound ways. While some welcome the economic development, others worry about harm to their traditional lifestyles.

However, being in cities can provide opportunities that can easily be exploited. Malacca and Macau are both major tourist destinations, so publicity of the speakers' culture has the potential to be seen by many people. One example is Dóci Papiaçám, a musical comedy troupe who performs at the Macau Arts Festival. Malacca is another important tourist destination, with the Portuguese Settlement a popular tourist area.

Urban settings can also have positive implications for language documentation, such as ease of access to resources to both researcher and community (Pillai 2011, Singho et al 2016). Population density also exposes awareness of a language to more people.

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**Sanita Lazdiņa** (Rēzekne Academy of Technologies, Latvia)

**Heiko F. Marten** (DAAD Information Centre / Rēzekne Academy of Technologies, Latvia)

### ***Beyond Latvian, Russian and English: linguistic diversity and creativity in society and education in Riga***

2018 marks the 100th anniversary of Latvian independence, celebrated by numerous political and cultural events. Logos which emphasize the Latvian nation are omnipresent and provoke the impression of a linguistically largely homogenous nation.

However, Latvia and its capital Riga are in fact highly multilingual: The sociolinguistic discussion has traditionally been dominated by the contrast between the national language Latvian and Russian as dominant minority language and language of Soviet times and in recent years also on English. Yet, Riga offers by far more linguistic diversity: the regional language of Latgalian from Eastern Latvia, migrant languages of recent times, but also references to the past (e.g. German as a previous elite language) add to Riga's contemporary complexity of multilingualism.

In our paper, we will briefly show examples of three aspects of how these “bigger” and “smaller” languages co-exist and how they influence each other: 1. Contact-induced creativity which incorporates elements of Latvian, Russian, English and migrant languages, e.g. in restaurant names; 2. efforts by a “diaspora” of inner-Latvian migrants to create space for Latgalian; and 3. A commodification of history which interferes with modern functions of German.

In this context, we will discuss how multilingualism has since 2016 been promoted in the project “A Competences Approach to Learning Processes” by the Latvian National Centre for Education. The project aims to incorporate practices of using several languages, both as separate systems and in forms of translanguaging (García 2009) and code-switching, into school curricula. In fact, teaching materials in more than one language are slowly being accepted as a feature of transdisciplinarity among some education policy makers and authors. Yet, in the year of national celebrations, these are met by persistent defenders of monolingual ideologies, resulting in a constant struggle with proponents of smaller languages in societal and educational discourses.

**Karsten Legère** (Universität Wien)

**Daniela Waldburger** (Universität Wien)

***Sub-Saharan Africa – cities and linguistic heterogeneity: The fate of small languages***

**Keywords:** Ethno-linguistic heterogeneity in sub-Saharan Africa, Cities as linguistic melting pots, Bleak future for small languages in urban areas

As known, linguistic heterogeneity is typical for most countries south of the Sahara. Only in a few cases the rather uniform ethno-linguistic composition of the population in Rwanda, Burundi, Somalia, Eswatini (Swaziland) is reflected in the dominance of a strong national language like (ikinya-)Rwanda, (ki-)Rundi, Somali or (si-)Swati. This is also documented in cities where this prominent position is often shared with non-African languages which being (co-) official enjoy a high prestige as well as a particular role as medium of communication among parts of the urban population.

The linguistic complexity of Tanzania (approx. 150 languages), Cameroon (approx. 240 languages), Nigeria (approx. 450 languages) Uganda, Zambia and others shapes the linguistic situation in cities like Dar es Salaam, Kampala, Lagos/Ibadan, Kinshasa/Lubumbashi, or Lusaka. These and other cities are linguistic melting pots, where in particular speakers of small languages do not have a chance to use these languages in formal or informal domains outside the family. The urban neighbourhood is not supportive to the maintenance of languages that are not accepted as supra-ethnic means of communication. The latter are e.g. (ki-)Swahili, (lu-)Ganda, Lingala or (ici-)Bemba, but also urban varieties of non-African official languages like Portuguese in Maputo or Luanda, Camfranglais in Yaoundé, as well as Sheng in Nairobi and more.

The description of the position and use of small languages in sub-Saharan cities is difficult for the unpopularity of anything which the administration associates with tribalism. Data collection under urban conditions is almost impossible; statistical data being the result of a population census are rare.

Nevertheless, the authors of this presentation managed to study the urban situation via interviews and questionnaires in schools or by analysing the results of some case studies in South Africa, Namibia, Uganda and Tanzania. This material will be shortly discussed.

**Yaron Matras** (The University of Manchester)

***‘A city of 200 languages’: ‘small’ languages in Manchester’s language narrative and provision strategy***

My case study draws on Manchester, a city with a high density of languages, where the University has been contributing to the development of a public narrative on language diversity (see Matras & Robertson 2015, Matras, Robertson & Jones 2016, Gaiser & Matras 2016, Matras & Robertson 2017).

Working on the assumption that ‘small’ refers to power as well as numbers, I begin by offering a definition of ‘small languages’ that takes into account both the reality of languages in their regions of origin and their situation and status in the super-diverse city. I then review a number of ‘small’ language communities that show very different patterns in regard to a catalogue of criteria, which include literacy practice, availability and use of media and social media, community based maintenance efforts, linguistic landscapes (public presence), public sector provisions such as

signage and interpreting & translation, awareness in the public sector as manifested in reports by schools and other local institutions, community internal linguistic repertoire management (multilingualism and domain-specific use), transnational networks as well as variation among nonstandard varieties. Attention is given, among other languages, to Romani, Kurdish, Yiddish, Uighur, Panjabi, and Bravanese.

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**Renée Pera-Ros** (Philipps-Universität Marburg)

### *The mirror effect, an ally for minoritized languages – migration in Catalonia*

**Keywords:** Catalan, heritage languages, mirror effect, migration, multilingualism

Nine interviews were conducted in the city of Barcelona in order to find out what stance the migrant population has towards their own language and Catalan. Informants were migrants coming from eight different countries: Pakistan, Romania, Ukraine, Morocco, Peru, India, Senegal and Canada.

Despite the fact that the informants' answers were diverse, some of them shared a common clear identification with Catalan because of the similarities with their own minoritized language. This is a phenomenon called the "mirror effect" (cf. Cortès-Colomé, Barrieras & Comellas 2016; Junyent i Figueras et al. 2011), found in other migration-related researches carried out in Catalonia (e.g., Larrea Mendizabal 2017).

Therefore, this study analyzes why some informants showed the mirror effect while others did not. In addition, the ways in which this phenomenon can play an important role in multilingual contexts will be discussed, focusing on its potential to strengthen small(er) languages and contribute to the preservation of local minoritized languages around the world, such as Catalan, as well as heritage languages.

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**Fabio Scetti** (Université Sorbonne Nouvelle – CLESTHIA)

***The Valoc' language spoken in two urban contexts of the migration: in Argentina and in the United States of America***

**Keywords:** Valoc', endangered language, migration, language contact, language practices and representations.

This presentation is based on the new VVV project (Vocabolär del Valoc' de la Val Mäsen), which aims to constitute a complete corpus of Valoc', an endangered language spoken in Val Masino, lower Valtellina, in Northern Italy, where Italian is the only official language.

This contribution provides important insight into the complex issue of observing and defining how speakers of Valoc' use this language and consider their own situation within a particular context of migration.

The aim of this sociolinguistic research focuses on the examination of two different contexts of migration where this language is still spoken. An initial fieldwork was realized in 2013, in the urban area of Buenos Aires (ARG). Other two fieldworks were realized in Bridgeport (Connecticut – USA), in 2014 and in 2018.

Based on anthropological and dialectological research using observations and interviews among speakers of different ages, we could observe language contact phenomena, such as code-switching and interferences, as well as neologisms that are still present in Valoc' today, due to the contact with both Spanish and English.

This methodological approach allowed to observe the actual use of Valoc' and to observe the process of transmission of this language from one generation to another. In Italy, young generation speakers are no longer using the language daily and they are fighting against negative discourses about Valoc' being useless, backward and lower class. In Argentina and in the USA, it is interesting to observe how speakers consider their own language and how they promote its use.

To conclude, this contribution brings to a reflection on how endangered languages need power and prestige in order to survive. In fact, considering that Valoc' has different varieties, we may question the importance of developing a standard, unique norm of reference as a way of preservation in the future.

**Houssine Soussi** (Ibn Zohr University)

***Internal migration and language shift in urban Morocco, the case of Amazigh speakers***

**Keywords:** internal migration; language shift; Amazighe; Morocco

This study examines internal migration and its impact on intergenerational language shift and the challenges of transmitting Amazigh language and its varieties in urban settings among Morocco's Amazigh-origin population. The permanent installation of Amazigh families in cities for educational or professional motives incites the adoption of the majority language as a result of the assimilative pressures that emanate from the mainstream society.

Indeed, the new generations of Amazigh urban speakers are constantly pressured to speak the dominant language and to abandon the language of the elders for Darrija (Moroccan Arabic), going through a transitional stage of bilingualism increasingly replacing their mother tongue. More, we can observe in some families, under the effect of social relations and intermarriages, a real desire

for total Arabization of their children for a better installation and integration in cities. In order to understand the modalities and effects of this sociolinguistic change, this study carried out an inquiry in three major Moroccan cities (Casablanca, Marrakech and Rabat), with the aim of assessing the level of mastery of the Amazigh mother tongue by the younger generation. The results of the study show that, with regard to linguistic as well as communicative competences, the research participants from cities only have a moderate knowledge of their mother tongue in comparison with their rural counterparts.

**Katharina Tyran** (Universität Wien)

***Outside the scope: language maintenance of Burgenland Croatian in Vienna***

**Keywords:** linguistic minority, Burgenland Croatian, Vienna, legal framework, bilingual education

One out of more than 100 languages spoken in Austria's capital Vienna is Burgenland Croatian, a meanwhile standardized local variety of the Croatian language being a recognized minority language in Austria. However, legal framework regarding bilingual education, representation and language use is limited to what is defined as the "autochthonous residential area" of the Croat minority, the federal province of Burgenland. As one out of six recognized minorities in Austria, Burgenland Croats settled during the 16th century the area formerly known as West Hungary, a predominantly rural region, characterized by multilingualism and coexistence of different ethnic communities. Until the collapse of the Habsburg monarchy, a confessional elementary schooling system existed in the settlement area, then the Hungarian half of the dual monarchy, which ensured the persistence of the local Croatian variety. Following border drawing process after WWI, the territory was divided between Hungary, Slovakia, and Austria, becoming in the eastern most state of Burgenland. Due to the poor economic situation of most parts of this region, there was a continuously strong migration to more urban settings, especially to Vienna, during the 20th century. Hence, many speakers of Burgenland Croatian today also live in Austria's capital, where, although, minority rights regarding language use do not apply for Burgenland Croats. For many years, minority activists advocate bilingual schooling in Vienna, which has not been achieved to this day.

In my presentation, I will outline the consequences of urbanization for the linguistic situation of Burgenland Croatian in Vienna, focusing on initiatives in favour of minority language maintenance and corresponding official responses. Furthermore, I will address how the linguistic situation and vitality of this small variety is influenced by both the official German language and the Croatian standard language, also being highly represented in Vienna due to various more recent migration processes from Croatia.

**Guillem Belmar Viernes** (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen)

**Sara Pinho** (Rijksuniversiteit Groningen)

***Intelligibility of West Frisian for Dutch native speakers. 'Twatalige konversaasjes': Receptive multilingualism to boost the use of Frisian in Fryslân***

**Keywords:** West Frisian; Dutch; Intelligibility; Receptive Skills; Multilingualism; Minoritized Languages.

West Frisian is a minoritized language spoken in the province of Fryslân, in the Netherlands, as well as in some neighboring villages in the province of Groningen. It has actually been said to be converging with Standard Dutch (cf. Nerbonne, 2001), and it has been found to be largely

intelligible for Dutch native speakers (cf. De Vries, 2010). However, it seems that negative attitudes towards the language (cf. Hilton & Gooskens, 2013) serve as the basis for a perceived difficulty that is often used to prevent the language from being used in the public sphere.

In this research, we tried to test how much Frisian Dutch native speakers can actually understand, as well as the perceived difficulty of each kind of exercise. An online test was designed with two reading exercises, three listening exercises and twenty sentences in West Frisian that the participants were asked to translate into Dutch. The test was shared through social media, and we got answers from both the Netherlands and Belgium. The results seem to indicate that West Frisian is highly intelligible for Dutch native speakers, which we argue should be used to enrich the school curriculum and foster receptive skills in the minoritized language, which could in turn boost its use.

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# RAUS MIT DER SPRACHE, BERLIN!

17. November 2018, 14 - 19 Uhr

Die Sprachen der Großstadt  
[www.berlin-spricht.org](http://www.berlin-spricht.org)

## Berliner Community-Forum

Wie vielfältig ist die Sprachlandschaft Berlins? Wie vernetzen sich Sprecher? Wie leben sie ihre Sprache, ihre Kultur, ihre Identität aus? In diesem Community-Forum teilen Sprecher kleinerer Sprachen ihre Erfahrungen zum Großstadtleben – und bieten so erste Antworten auf die Frage, wie kleinere Sprachgemeinschaften gestärkt werden können.

Leibniz-Zentrum Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft (ZAS)

Schützenstr. 18  
D-10117 Berlin



Leibniz-Zentrum  
Allgemeine Sprachwissenschaft



**Ort:**

Schützenstr. 18, D-10117 Berlin  
Anmeldung bei [Elisabeth Verhoeven](#) 

**Ablauf:**

14:00           Ankunft & Begrüßung

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14:15           Kurzvorträge zur Situation kleiner Sprachen  
– New York, Daniel Kaufman, ELA  
– London, Mandana Seyfeddinipur, SOAS  
– Berlin, Natalia Gagarina, ZAS

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15:15           Vorstellungsrunde der Sprechergemeinschaften  
– darunter Dazaga, Fula, Abchasisch, Baskisch u. a.

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16:00           **Recordathon**  
Professionelle Aufnahmen der beteiligten Sprachen mit Live-Weltkarte

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18:00           Ausklang mit Umtrunk und Musik

**Live-Weltkarte der Sprachen**

Die Aufnahmen des Recordathons werden direkt auf [berlin-spricht.org](#) hochgeladen. Dort werden sie zu einer Live-Karte zusammengestellt, die zeigt, welche kleinen Sprachen in Berlin zu Hause sind. Diese Karte wird anschließend mit weiteren Aufnahmen angereichert. Ähnliche Projekte gab es bereits in London.



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