

World-Conference on Pluricentric Languages and their Non-Dominant Varieties:

Graz, 08-11 July 2015

<http://www.pluricentriclanguages.org/ndv-conf-graz-2015/>

**Organized by the International Working Group on
Non-Dominant Varieties of Pluricentric Languages (WGNDV)**

Call for papers

We would like to invite scholars from around the world to participate in the 4th conference organized by the Working Group on Non-Dominant Varieties of Pluricentric Languages (WGNDV). The conference is devoted to the description of pluricentric languages and in particular of non-dominant national varieties of plc. languages. These are the varieties that are small by the number of their speakers and their symbolic power, and are not the primary norm-setting centres of the language. They may often be falsely attributed the status of a “dialect”, and have little or no codification of their norms. Typically, nd-varieties often have to legitimate their norms towards the dominant varieties etc.

The previous conferences of the WGNDV (see www.pluricentriclanguages.org...conferences) have shown that non-dominant varieties around the world have many linguistic and sociolinguistic features in common. We would therefore like to deepen our knowledge and invite scholars from around the world to take part in the conference and give insight into the situation and features of as many nd-varieties and plc. languages as possible.

Objectives of the 4th conference:

The WGNDV wishes to continue in the line of the previous conferences and to extend the scope of its research. The main objectives of this conference are:

- 1. To get more information about the situation of as many pluricentric languages and non-dominant-varieties in order to get empirically secure descriptions of effects of non-dominance.**
 - on the identity of their speakers,
 - on the identity of their language communities,
 - on the treatment of norms in written and spoken language
 - on the principles of codification and their spread to younger generations
 - on methods in language-technology, how linguistic variation between and within national varieties and nd-varieties in particular can be treated and modelled.
- 2. To get exhaustive reports of the situation of as many plc. languages and nd-varieties around the world as possible and in particular of lesser known and researched plc. languages and nd-varieties like:**
 - *Albanian, Aramaic, Aromunian, Basque, Bengali, Chinese, Croatian, Guarani, Hebrew, Hindi/Urdu, Hungarian, Kiswahili / Swahili, Kurdish, Mapudungun, Occitan, Pashto, Punjabi, Quechua, Tamil, Romanian, Russian etc.*
 - **ND-varieties of English in Europe, Americas, Africa and Asia:**
 - **ND-varieties of French in Europe, Africa, Asia and America:**
 - **ND-varieties of Spanish in the Americas and in Asia:**
 - **ND-varieties of Portuguese in South-America, Africa and Asia:**
 - **ND-varieties of German in Austrian, Belgium, Italy, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Luxemburg.**
 - **Reports on the development of Russian in the former member-states of the Soviet Union**
- 3. To deepen the theory of plc. languages and the methods for the description of nd-varieties in particular in respect to:**
 - migrant varieties creating new types of pluricentricity;
 - second level forms of pluricentricity within national varieties and their theoretical treatment;

- strategies for coping with language shift caused by electronic media and satellite TV spreading dominant norms to non-dominant varieties;
- the treatment of linguistic and pragmatic features of nd-varieties in education in primary and secondary schools;
- principles of codification in diglossic language communities of plc. languages, esp. the treatment of divergent linguistic forms that are common in everyday communication
- the usage of endonormative codification strategies and their impact on the development of varieties and languages;
- measures of status planning and corpus planning etc. etc.

Important dates

All scholars working in this field are invited to submit proposals for papers/workshops by **30th March 2015**. Notification of acceptance: **15th April 2015**.

Contents of papers

Papers (25 mins. + 5 mins. discussion) should address one or more of the above mentioned objectives of the conference as mentioned above and should thus provide:

1. Information about the situation of any pluricentric language and any non-dominant-varieties in order to get empirically secure descriptions.
2. To get exhaustive reports of the situation of lesser known and researched plc. languages and nd-varieties (see the list) and may be of "new" plc. languages that have not previously been identified.
3. Data that deepen the theory of plc. languages and the methods for the description of nd-varieties.

Suggestions for other topics are welcome!

Contents of workshops

Workshops (90 minutes long) should concern specific languages and their various non-dominant varieties, and particular methodological problems in the description of non-dominant varieties.

Abstracts

All abstracts must be **written in English** and copied into the field "**abstract**" on the registration page (<http://www.pluricentriclanguages.org/ndv-conf-graz-2015/...registration>) or sent to ndv-conf@pluricentriclanguages.org as an email-attachment in Word format. Abstracts for 25-minutes papers should not exceed **3000 characters** (1 page A4) including 4 keywords. Suggested topics for presentations can be downloaded from the conference website. Abstracts for 90-minutes workshops should not exceed **5000 characters** (1 1/2 page A4) including 4-8 keywords. Workshop organizers should outline the overall structure of the workshop and provide names of the participants.

Conference language(s) and Sections

The conference languages will be **English and German** plus the **languages of the sections** for specific languages if there are enough presentations to establish a section. The following sections are envisaged: **English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, a general section and a language technology section.**

All presentations at the conference must be written in English, the oral presentation can be held in the language of the section.

Publication of papers

A volume of selected papers is to be published by Peter Lang Verlag, Frankfurt. **All papers for the conference and the publication will be peer-reviewed.**

Organizing Committee:

Zeinab Ibrahim	(Qatar) (Arabic)*	Corey Miller	(Maryland) (Persian)
Ramiz Berisha	(Klagenfurt) (Albanian)	Eugênia Duarte	(Rio de Janeiro) (Portuguese)
Aditi Gosh	(Calcutta) (Bengali)	Amália Mendes	(Lisbon) (Portuguese)
Adrian Tien	(Singapore) (Chinese)	Salvatore del Gaudio	(Kiew) (Russian)
Gerhard Leitner	(Berlin) (English)	Catrin Norrby	(Stockholm) (Swedish, General)
Dawn Marley	(Guildford, UK) (English, French)	Carla Amorós Negre	(Salamanca) (Spanish)
Bernhard Pöll	(Salzburg) (French)	Klaus Zimmermann	(Bremen) (Spanish)
Maté Huber	(Szeged), (Hungarian)	Barbara Schuppler	(Graz) (Language Variation & Technology)
John Hajek	(Melbourne) (Italian)	Rudolf Muhr	(Graz) (German, General)

*) Name of the language represented by each member of the organizing committee

Organizer of the conference:

Rudolf Muhr,

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