

Educity, Turku University of Applied Sciences



## **Speakers A-B**

Aida Niendorf Mariya received her Ph.D. from Indiana University Bloomington (USA) in 2005. Her doctoral thesis in Central Eurasian Studies was titled investigating the Future of Finnish Congruency: Focus on Possessive Morphology, which dealt with language variation and change. Before coming to Sweden in 2009, she taught Japanese at Purdue University in the US for nine years. Currently she teaches specialized courses within the Japanese subject such as linguistics, cultural anthropology, and intercultural communication at Dalarna University where she works as an assistant professor. Her research interests include Socio- and Applied-Linguistics, Cultural Anthropology as well as Intercultural Communication.

Alizadeh Tabrizi Sanaz is an Assist. Prof of English Language and Literature at Istanbul Aydin University, and specialises in late Romanticism, Victorian, and early 20th-century literature, with particular emphasis on genre, narratology, and intermedial studies in literature, music, and other fine arts. Major publications include a book chapter featured in Nick Ceramella's (ed.) "The Marriage between Literature and Music" (Cambridge Scholars, 2022). Her monograph entitled: Reading Music in Henry James' Fiction will be published by the same publisher soon. Aniol Eryka is a recent graduate with an MA in Psychology from the University of Aberdeen (2022). Currently, she is an intern at International Business Improvement, where she focuses on data analysis for longitudinal studies related to the Intercultural Readiness Check. Eryka is passionate about research in cultural psychology and anthropology, with a particular interest in how self-concept, identity, and early childhood experiences shape personal and cultural understanding. She aims to continue developing her expertise in these areas, exploring the intersections of culture and psychology.

 Bianchin, Sylvi, Dr., is the Head of Diversity Management and Deputy Head of Department 9: University Culture at TU Dresden since 2023. Previously, she worked as Diversity Management Officer (2012-2023). Her earlier experience includes roles in sustainability research, including the
TransEcoNet project at the Leibniz Institute and environmental initiatives at TU Bergakademie Freiberg. She holds a PhD in Geography (2011) from TU Bergakademie Freiberg, and a Diploma in Geography (2003) from TU Dresden.

Angelopoulou Sofia graduated from the faculty of French Language and Literature of the NKUA1 in 2020 she completed the French – Greek common MA program "Teachers of Foreign European Languages: Education in intercultural and linguistic diversity" organized by the NKUA and the University of Angers. She participated at the European program «Speak Dates» by delivering language courses aimed at raising student's awareness on multilingualism and last October at the ILW conference in Athens. She is interested in sociolinguistics, intercomprehension, minority languages dialects, multilingualism. Currently she works as a Front Desk Manager at the Stefania Hotel.

Angress Alexandra is a professor at AUAS. She teaches Business English, intercultural communication and courses on EU integration. She holds a PhD with her research focus on EU training and education policies and programs after graduating from the University of Würzburg and completing her Masters at Sidney Sussex College University of Cambridge UK and at postgraduate College of Europe, Bruges, Belgium. She worked as head of unit for the NA ERASMUS in the DAAD office in Bonn and Brussels and is an expert for the EU and DAAD in the area of HEI internationalization and international education with regular contributes at international conferences in this field. At AUS she is also academic faculty coordinator for international affairs and a member of the Institute for Intercultural Communication at AUAS. Bosma Sanne, LL.M.: As a lecturer and trainer, Sanne teaches courses and (co-)develops curriculum related to intercultural communication, DEIB, law and ethics. As a member of the Research Group Global Living at the International Business School of Hanze UAS, Sanne is particularly interested in researching an applying an interdisciplinary approach implementing the culture-biology interplay - to intercultural education and DEIB.

Bradlaw Constanze, M.A., studied Sinology, Political Science, Cultural Anthropology and German Literature at the Goethe University Frankfurt and the University of Hamburg where she received her Master of Arts in Sinology II (State and Society). In her current position as Executive Advisor, she works closely with the Vice President for Innovation and International Affairs of TU Darmstadt. As doctoral candidate in the Department of Multilingualism at the Institute of Linguistics and Literary Studies, she concentrates her research on languages policies and management at HEIs with regards to various aspects of functional multilingualism.

Bueno Belloso Alicia is the translation coordinator at the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences. Since April 2023, she also coordinates the LanguageLab+ project together with Dr. Cinzia Marongiu. Apart from these roles, she is a freelance translator and interpreter with English, Spanish, German and Italian as working languages and holds a PhD in Theoretical Physics.



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## Speakers C-J

**Cengiz Ceren** got her BA in Interior Architecture and Environmental Design, at Ozyegin University in 2023. She got her GradDip degree in Art & Design from the Royal College of Art in 2024. She has been accepted to the Art MA program in Visual Communication at the Royal College of Art, London, UK. She has been a cross-disciplinary designer combining architecture with graphic design with a particular interest in integrating AI, art, and interactive narratives.

**Chrissou Marios,** Professor of Linguistics and Foreign Language Didactics, studied and received his doctorate at the University of Duisburg-Essen, has been working in the Department of German Language and Literature at the National Kapodistrian University of Athens since 2001 and is director of the Master's program "Didactics of German as a Foreign Language" at the Greek Open University of Patras.

**Durkova Katarina**, one of the first graduates of the Faculty of Mass Media Communication UCM in Trnava. Since completing her master's degree, she has been working continuously in the academic environment at the Department of Marketing Communication as an assistant professor, and since 2015 also in practice, as a PR manager of the Slovak Cycling Association and the Tour of Slovakia. She is the author of several publications and professional scientific articles, articles in textbooks on PR, media relations, sponsorship and internal corporate communication. Heimann-Bernoussi Nicola works as a research assistant in the subject didactics of Romance languages at the Institute for Romance Studies at the University of Osnabrück and as a curriculum developer and lecturer at the Center for Foreign Language Training at the Ruhr University Bochum. Her work focuses on the areas of teacher training, curriculum development, technical language, and evaluation and teaching. She also regularly offers training courses for foreign language teachers. Her academic interests lie in the subject of multilingualism, technical language acquisition, intercultural learning and diversity.

Hirard Tiina is a Degree Programme Leader and Senior Lecturer at Turku University of Applied Sciences. She has an extensive experience on developing education as well as guidance services aimed at immigrants and in teaching Finnish as a second language. She has worked in several national development projects related to immigration work. She has developed courses on multiculturalism for the staff and students of Turku UAS and organized workshops for the staff to explore the theme in more detail.

El Madani El Mehdi. Dr. El Mehdi EL Madani received his PhD in Applied Linguistics from the School of Arts and Humanities of Moulay Ismail University, Meknes. He works as a part-time professor at the department of English studies at the School of Arts and Humanities, Meknes. He is also a part-time professor at the Higher School of Training and Education, Ibn Tofail University in Kenitra. El Madani is the author and co-author of several articles published in indexed international journals. His major fields of interest are Applied linguistics, Bilingual and Multilingual Education, English Language Learning and Teaching, and Metacognition.

Franklin Peter. Raised in the U.K. but resident for many years in Germany, Peter Franklin is professor of intercultural communication and intercultural management at Hochschule Konstanz University of Applied Sciences, Germany. There he works on the Asia-oriented bachelor's and master's programmes. His publications - both academic and for the practitioner - focus on various aspects of intercultural management and intercultural competence development. In addition to his university work, Peter Franklin has trained and addressed hundreds of people from more than 90 companies working internationally in various parts of the world. His focus is on individuals, teams and organisations faced with the challenge of handling post-merger integration, expatriate assignments, HQsubsidiary relationships, global teams and Anglo-German cooperation. Jakosz Mariusz, Univ.-Prof. Dr., scientific and didactic employee at the Institute of Linguistics (specialization: Germanic Philology) at the Silesian University of Katowice (Poland); deputy head of Germanic Philology at the Silesian University of Katowice; research focus: stereotypes and prejudices in German-Polish perception, political linguistics, media linguistics, discourse linguistics, phraseology and early foreign language learning.

Joshi Marjo, Dr., (Ph.D.) works as Dean, Welfare and Culture, at Seinajoki University of Applied Sciences, Finland. She is responsible for the strategic, operational and pedagogic leadership of Bachelor degree programmes in the fields of Culture Production, Library and Information Studies, as well as Health Care and Social Work. She oversees university-wide development of joint teaching support services, including pedagogical solutions and digitalization of education; student services, student guidance and wellbeing; as well as continuous learning and continuing education. Previously she worked as Head of Pedagogical Development at Turku University of Applied Sciences, Finland, where her work focused on development of pedagogical approaches for onsite, hybrid and online learning contexts at organisational level. She has published research on the design of student-centred online education, pedagogical solutions, and professional development of teachers.



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## **Speakers K-L**

Kapler Astrid studied at the University of Potsdam, Staffordshire University (Great Britain) and the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań (Poland) to obtain a Magistra Artium degree in English/American Studies, Polish Studies and Civil Law. As part of a management training course at bbw Berlin-Brandenburg, she took on an internship at the Collegium Polonicum Słubice (Poland), a joint institution of the European University Viadrina Frankfurt (Oder) and the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. There she set up a foreign language lectureship and headed it until 2018. However, her particular interest was teaching. For this reason, she is now devoting herself in particular to the preparatory language courses at the Viadrina College of the European University.

Katsumata Eriko is a Professor of International Communication at Aoyama Gakuin University in Tokyo, Japan. She teaches intercultural communication and multicultural education. She graduated from Claremont Graduate University & San Diego State University, with a Ph.D. in Education. Her research interests include intercultural communication, active learning, COIL, and intercultural training. She is a former vice president of SIETAR Japan. She is also a member of iEARN and project leader of "Machinto - Hiroshima/Nagasaki for Peace." Her most recent publication is "The Voice of Women in Higher Education -Women's Empowerment for a Sustainable Future" (2023) Springer. Kramel Christine has been working at the University of Regensburg for over 20 years. She works as a teacher for special tasks in the field of German as a foreign language at the ZSK as well as at the Institute for German Studies / German as a Foreign Language Philology. Her teaching focuses include the preparatory German as a foreign language courses and directing work with the award-winning international theater group Babylon at the UR. In addition, she currently heads the E-Learning department at the ZSK. She is considered a proven expert in the field of moodle, creates, manages and updates course offerings at the Virtual University of Bavaria (vhb) and actively contributes her wealth of experience to the Diversity Working Group at the ZSK.

Kraus Birgit is a cooperative doctoral candidate at both TU Darmstadt and Aschaffenburg University of Applied Sciences/Germany exploring the quality assurance of linguistic and intercultural competences in study abroad contexts. Her academic background comprises studies in higher education management, teaching, and comparative linguistics, including more than five years academic and professional experience abroad in various countries. Her long-standing professional career has covered the fields of teaching, evaluation of teacher training, accreditation, degree programme development as well as policy planning and quality assurance. Currently, Birgit serves as an executive advisor to the Vice President for Academic Careers at TU Darmstadt.

Kleinke Corinna studied German and Slavic studies as well as German as a foreign language. After her DAAD lectureship in Kazakhstan, she works at the Oldenburg University of Applied Sciences, later at the (EUV), in the Language Center, in the area of German as a foreign language. From 2008 and 2009 she was a coordinator with teaching responsibilities in the study and scholarship program for Ukrainian students, and from 2011 to 2022 she was coordinator of the DaF area in the double degree BA course in Intercultural German Studies at the EUV, which was implemented jointly with the University of Poznań and later also with the SISU Chongqing. After the Intercultural German Studies course was discontinued in the winter semester of 2022, she teaches as a DaF lecturer in the Language Center of the EUV

Kraľovičová Denisa began her career as an English teacher at FMK UCM in Trnava. She collaborates with the US Embassy and participates in both domestic and international projects. Her research focuses on marketing communication, improving language education quality, and exploring new trends. She also studies communication competences and linguistic perspectives. A member of The Salzburg Academy on Media and Global Change and CASAJC, she graduated in English and psychology from UCM and completed her PhD in marketing communication. Currently, she works at the Department of Language Communication at FMK UCM. .She also participates in testing TOEIC language skills and owns various language certificates. Recently,she published a book for students called Selected issues of marketing and marketing communication. Link Renate is a Professor for Business English and Intercultural Communication at the Department of Business and Law at Aschaffenburg University of Applied Sciences/Germany. She is also the Vice Head of the university's Language Center and Founding Director of the Institute of Intercultural Communication. Since 2021, she has co-headed the regional SIETAR chapter Frankfurt-Rhine-Main-Lower Franconia; since 2022, she has been on the board of the German Society for Key Competences in Teaching, Research and Practice and since 2023, she has been a member of the IACCM Council. Her research focuses on intercultural gamification as well as Nordic and Asian countries

**Lyp-Bielecka Aleksandra,** Dr., linguist, teaching assistant in the Germanic Philology department at the Silesian University in Katowice; multiplier at the Goethe-Institut Munich and trainer in the Delfort training program at the Goethe-Institut Warsaw; author of numerous methodological and didactic articles and materials for German as a foreign language teaching.

Ljungquist Sarah is a PhD and Senior Lecturer in Literature and Gender Studies at the University of Gävle in Sweden. She has been actively engaged in social criticism in literature, with a focus on gender, sexuality, class, and ethnicity, and has been a frequent contributor to contemporary debates on these topics. Her international experiences include research collaboration and teaching exchanges in Great Britain, Australia, Finland, and the Baltic countries. Her current research focuses on the use of stories from literature and film on values and social sustainability in teacher education.



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# **Speakers M-P**

M'Rabti Mounya is an EFL teacher and a doctoral candidate in Applied Linguistics. She received her MA in Applied language Studies from Moulay Ismail University, Meknes Morocco. She works as a part-time professor at the department of English studies at the school of Arts and Humanities. Her major fields of interest are applied linguistics, sustainable development, culture education, and ecolinguistics.

Marongiu Cinzia, Dr., is the coordinator of the Department of Romance Languages at the Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences, where she is also a teacher of Italian and Spanish. In the last ten years, she has dedicated herself to the research and analysis of Italian literature, pedagogy of Italian as a foreign language and as a second language, as well as to Spanish literature, Italian-American literature and immigration literature. Nölle-Becker Stefanie, M.A., studied German Studies, American Studies and Sociology at Johannes Gutenberg Universität Mainz and Applied Linguistics / Germanistische Sprachwissenschaft at Technische Universität Darmstadt. She is a research assistant and doctoral candidate in the Department of Multilingualism at the Institute of Linguistics and Literary Studies. Her research focuses on Linguistic Landscapes and Multilingualism. In her PhD project, she investigates multilingualism in the linguistic landscape of Higher Education institutions.

Pappa Marina, Dr., is an Assistant Professor at the Department of Foreign Languages, Translation, and Interpreting at Ionian University. She holds degrees in Translation, Interpreting, English Language, and French Language from the Ionian University and the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens. She also holds two PhDs: one from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens and another in Comparative Literature from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki. She has taught at several Greek universities and her research focuses on interpreting studies, discourse analysis, translation, language teaching, and new technologies in communication.

Meyer Almut, PhD, is a German lecturer at the Centre for Language and Communication Studies at the University of Turku (Finland). She is specialised in the field of specialised discourse with a particular focus on culturally appropriate understanding in transcultural legal communication (PhD thesis), in the development of study-related teaching in (legal) German and knowledge-oriented learning programs. Her research interests are knowledge communication in law as well as cultural studies and plurilingual approaches to teaching foreign languages. Her latest project is to develop plurilingual L3/4-German beginner courses for law, business, and social science students.

Mouassine Fatima Ezzahra is an Applied Linguistics doctoral student in Moulay Smail university and a high school English teacher. Her research interests are tightly linked to English language teaching, language and culture pedagogy as well as supervision in higher education. With respect to this, she wrote papers about English Language Learning and the Reconstruction of Students' Identity and also the Effect of Master Graduate Students' Attitudes towards Supervisory Feedback on their Thesis Revision Decisions and their Achievement Scores. Pavlidis Myrto is a lecturer in Economics and Quantitative Methods at Aschaffenburg University of Applied Sciences. Prior to this, she worked as a research and teaching associate at Goethe University Frankfurt and at Deutsche Börse AG. She holds a Diploma degree in Economics, specializing in Monetary Economics and Finance (2005) and a Master of Science in Quantitative Economics specializing on International Economics from Goethe University Frankfurt (2008). Currently, she is a Ph.D. Candidate at SIETAR and Prof. Link at Aschaffenburg University of Applied Sciences. Her research is based on sustainability of tourism in Europe with a regional focus on Greece.

Peltola Katja, M.A., M.Ed. works as a lecturer in Swedish at the Centre for Languages and Business Communication at Hanken School of Economics in Helsinki, Finland. She has a long experience of teaching courses at CEFR A1-B2 levels both faceto-face and online. She is also writing her doctoral thesis on student engagement in online language courses.



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## **Speakers P-S**

Pérez Diéz Carmen is Associate Professor at the Universidad de León (SPAIN), where she is currently the Head of the Department of Modern Languages. She teaches courses on English Language and Literatures in the degrees of English Philology and Primary Education (teacher training), and also in the Master of Secondary Education, Baccalaureat, Vocational Training and Official Language Schools (teacher training). Her field of research is Children's Literature and YAL, and she has also developed an interest in the benefits of VE and telecollaboration.

Prieto Peral María Begoña, Prof., Dr., is Professor of Spanish, Cultural and Regional Studies of the Spanish-speaking area at the Munich University of Applied Sciences. She was Dean of Studies at the Faculty of General Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies until 2019. She currently heads the Languages and Cultural Studies department of the faculty. Her research focuses on the construction of national identity in Spanish-speaking countries and the study of cultural identity processes among migrants. She also teaches in the International Project Management (BA) and Intercultural Cooperation and Communication degree programs and has been the Sustainability Officer of the Faculty of General Studies and Interdisciplinary Studies at the Munich University of Applied Sciences since 2020. Rother Marcel is a doctoral student at the University of Vaasa, Finland and a lecturer at the University of Applied Science Aschaffenburg, Germany. He teaches law and business in the EU and researches EU-Taiwan business relations. He has taught in various international projects, such as in Finland, USA and Taiwan. He also has experience in IT and printing from working in his family business.

Saadallah Zayneb: A dedicated educator and researcher, currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics. With extensive international linguistic experience in Spain and India, Zayneb has honed her skills teaching both English and Arabic to native and non-native speakers, creating inclusive and engaging learning environments. Passionate about cross-cultural communication, she combines her research with practical teaching experience, fostering an enriching learning environment for students from diverse backgrounds. Her teaching repertoire includes ESP, ICC, Critical thinking, and Learning Technologies at various institutions. She has actively contributed to national and international conferences, coauthored several academic papers, and has a strong commitment to fostering education and cultural exchange through her work.

Reader Sarah K. is Lecturer at the Centre for Teacher Training -TU Chemnitz (Germany) and specialises in English Didactics. Her research interests are intercultural learning in the EFL classroom, remote foreign language teaching and learning, and the use of digital tools to foster communicative competence. Her PhD project is about asynchronous Virtual Exchanges for initiating and fostering young English learners' Intercultural Communicative Competence.

Reinel Julia has a doctorate in Romance studies and has been working as managing director of the Center for Language and Communication for over 10 years. In addition to teaching French and German as a foreign language courses, human resources and financial matters are the focus of her work. After the successful completion of AG Raum in November 2023, Julia coordinated the establishment of an innovative teaching and learning space at the ZSK. Reinel is working on another cross-disciplinary project with the Diversity Working Group, which now aims to implement the University of Regensburg's 2023-2027 diversity concept at the ZSK.

**Rissanen Juho** is a multilingual, curiosity-driven technology generalist and workshop facilitator. He works currently with linguistics, startups, research-to-business and other topics of interest. Sanchez-Stockhammer Christina is a Professor for English and Digital Linguistics at Chemnitz University of Technology. She has published on a large variety of topics, such as the impact of Star Wars on the English language, how to express drunkenness in English, language in comic-to-film adaptations, fairy-tale style in translations and the question whether it is possible to predict linguistic change. Furthermore, she has codeveloped the software WordValue, which colour-codes words in context based on their qualities, the webtool CompSpell, which offers advice on English compound spelling based on large-scale empirical research, and the virtual-reality adventure quiz app Bridge of Knowledge VR, which can be employed for interdisciplinary self-study and revision.

Schlabach Joachim is *lehtori* of German and business communication as well as multilingual communication at the University of Turku / Turku School of Economics, and, as *wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter*, he is a member of the research group *Fachgebiet Sprachwissenschaft* – *Mehrsprachigkeit* at Technische Universität Darmstadt.



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# Speakers S-V

Sillanpää Elli works as a DEI Advisor at Turku University of Applied Sciences. Her areas of responsibility and special interests include the accessibility of higher education, students' equity, diversity, multiculturalism, and antiracism. She has developed courses on multiculturalism for the staff and students of Turku UAS and organized workshops for the staff to explore the theme in more detail.

Soltyska Anna is a research associate at the Center for Foreign Language Education at Ruhr University Bochum, where she works as a lecturer in English for General and Specific Academic Purposes and is active in test development teams for semistandardized tests for internal and external purposes. She is also a speaker and trainer at numerous internal and external events on teaching and testing foreign language skills. Her current professional interests include task-based learning, teaching and testing, intercultural aspects of exam misconduct, and AI applications in foreign language teaching. Vigato Valentina is a Master's student (research group) at Turku University of Applied Sciences, focusing on research, international projects, and DEIB). Originally from Italy, she has a strong passion for languages, speaking multiple fluently. She completed her Bachelor's degree in International Business at LAB (Lahti) University of Applied Sciences, specializing in intercultural communication, internationalization, multiculturalism, and project work. Currently, she is part of the International Language Week team and is writing her Master's thesis on developing and improving DEIB and multicultural skills for future leaders in companies and projects across Finland and Europe.

Vyzas Theodoros is Assistant Professor at the Department of Foreign Languages, Translation and Interpreting at the Ionian University, Greece, and holds a PhD in Specialised Translation (2008) from the Université Paul Valéry-Montpellier III, France. From 1999 to this day, he has taught general and specialised translation, terminology, lexicography and French and English for specific purposes in universities in France and Greece. His research interests include specialised translation, terminology, lexicography, translation didactics and interpreting. He is coauthor in two books on specialised translation and entrepreneurial information, and has taken part in international conferences and research projects, including three on court interpreting and community interpreting.

Szczęk Joanna, Prof. Dr., Professor at the Chair of Applied Linguistics at the Institute of German Studies at the University of Wrocław in Poland, doctorate in 2004, habilitation in 2015, professorship in 2022. Research fields: phraseology, text linguistics, pragmatic linguistics, onomastics, translation studies, German as a foreign language

**Tchernega Meinert Elena**, coordinator of the Heritage Languages Project at the Language Centre of Frankfurt University of Applied Sciences and Goethe University in Frankfurt am Main (Germany), Lecturer in Russian and Spanish as a Foreign and Heritage Language at these universities. She is currently working on the development of the Heritage Languages Program (Arabic, Chinese, Italian, Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian, Kurdish, Persian, Polish, Russian, Spanish and Turkish).

**Tjurin-Muranen Birgitta**, L.Phil. , is a senior lecturer in Russian language at the Centre for Language and Communication Studies at the University of Turku, Finland. She teaches courses at CERF A1-B2 levels, using both faceto-face and distance learning formats.