



International Conference of ProViZA project

## **Perspectives on Language Sustainability: Discourses, Policies and Practices**

16th and 17th September 2016

University of Zadar, Croatia

This two-day conference is dedicated to the presentation and examination of theoretically- and empirically-founded approaches to language endangerment, vitality maintenance, and revitalisation. We are looking into the intricate relationship between a variety of factors affecting language vitality and sustainability with a special focus on their management across diverse policy levels (global, local, individual). We are particularly interested in hearing about how the issues of concern are linked to global shifts in the modes of living marked by precarious conditions either stemming from free-market economy or the global turmoil and unrest destabilising the political orders in Europe, but also globally. Furthermore, we would also like to open up the discussion of what other factors contribute to or are affected by (recent) changes in local language ecologies and, specifically, in small (and endangered) language communities worldwide. Finally, we are interested to hear about various discourses and policies related to language endangerment as well as practices related to rendering endangered languages more sustainable. The applicability of research for social justice is particularly welcome.

The purpose of the conference is to bridge the gap between often purely academically oriented discourses of the endangerment and the role of other potential stakeholders from all policy levels – individual speakers, communities, local, national and supranational governing bodies. Thereby, we kindly ask you to draw on the scientific framework of your choice in a way that will be accessible to a wider audience.

The conference is organized by The Department of Linguistics, University of Zadar within the framework of the project *Promoting multilingualism in Zadar: ethnolinguistic vitality of the Arbanasi community* (ProViZA) (European Social Fund, HR 3.2.01 – 0347).

### **Key-note speakers**

Helen Kelly-Holmes (School of Languages, Literature, Culture and Communication, University of Limerick)

Dina Mehmedbegović (Institute of Education, University College London)

Julia Sallabank (SOAS, University of London)



## Abstracts

Linguists, language activists and practitioners, (language) policy makers, and endangered community members are invited to submit abstracts of original empirically- or theoretically-driven research and/or analysis of specific practices in the context of language maintenance and revitalization efforts. Abstracts should be **between 300 and 500 words** long and should include **up to five keywords**.

The following information should be included in the body of your e-mail message: the title of your paper as well as the name, affiliation, and e-mail address of the author and co-authors.

The Conference language is English.

Please send your abstracts and a short bio (ca. 100 words) to [klara.bilic.mestric@gmail.com](mailto:klara.bilic.mestric@gmail.com) **by 15 April 2016**.

The number of accepted contributions will be limited due to the time constraints of the conference. The prospective speakers will be informed about the outcome of their application **by 15 May 2016**.

No conference fee will be charged.

## Important dates

15 April 2016: submission of abstract and short CV

15 May 2016: notification of acceptance

15 July 2016: registration / confirmation of participation at the conference

## The organising committee

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