CALL FOR PAPERS

« SIGN LANGUAGES. MINORITY LANGUAGES AND SOCIETIES »

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Edition 7 (Glottopol, 2006) was dedicated, in a non-exhaustive way, to sociolinguistic and linguistic research within the domain of French Sign Language. In this previous edition, we noted the importance of research activity in the process of scientific, linguistic, and French social recognition. Supplementary language and business discourse research regarding French Sign Language was presented to such an extent that work relating to scientific knowledge formed an answer to diglossic portrayals historically linked to French Sign Language and its users. The difficulty in preservation with respect to the distance of researchers was emphasised, as the field of Sign Languages was made dangerous by confrontations and ideological, linguistic, and social conflicts. http://glottopol.univ-rouen.fr/numero_7.html

The present edition intends to take the sociolinguistic debate concerning Sign Languages to an international level, principally concerning francophone countries. In this now expanded field, Sign Languages have faced and are continuing to face institutional issues; sociolinguistic positions which give information regarding the terms of both past and present social language policies. Social challenges linked to the language acquisition, education, and social integration of Deaf people cause Sign Language users along with other stakeholders to focus attention on the main issue: the most appropriate languages used to assist in the socialisation of this community. Otherness, and the idea of "sameness" within the societies considered will be investigated, in addition to linguistic and sociolinguistic questions.

Making the research field available on an international scale gives a promising comparative viewpoint on the issue at hand, through cross-referencing social and linguistic data with key research features and results in different institutional, social, and historic contexts. Within the diversity of the research fields, approaches, collection, and analysis methods, will theoretical common ground and shared results be found?

It would be rewarding if the question of distance and ethical background of researchers was updated in proposed works regarding the "dangerous ground" of Sign Languages.

Research contribution requests are limited to fields giving priority to studies on the relationship

between man, language, and society. These studies will focus partly on education for the Deaf community, and partly on interpreting sign and spoken languages. Within the framework of this online edition, it will be possible for authors to submit filmed corpus, and even provide a Sign Language version of the article.

These two areas of proposed research are at the centre of debates and challenges within the field of contemporary and social linguistics, in university teaching, training and research structures.

In the first area, devoted to education for Deaf people, works encompassing the following criteria will be prioritised:
– Linguistic choices and models of education
– Technological products and linguistic socialisation (cochlear implants, telephony, Internet)
– Linguistic policies and language status
– Disabilities and education
– Legislation and education
– Speeches made by those in education vs. speeches made by education experts

In the second area, open to research regarding interpretation within Sign and Spoken Languages, the articles will focus on the following fields:
– Interpreters and Deaf people / Interrelations and social action
– Interpreters and institutions
– The history and status of interpreters
– Current research on interpreting
– Lexical variation, internal/external linguistic register, prosody
– Similarities and differences between spoken language interpreters/translators, and spoken language and Sign Language interpreters/translators
– Ethics and interpreting

Accepted languages: French, English, Spanish, Italian, French Sign Language, and other Sign Languages (voice-over and/or subtitling).

It will be compulsory for all communication in Sign Language to be accompanied with a French (or another accepted language) version, in order for the peer review committee to carry out expert assessment on proposed contributions.

Communication in English, Spanish, and Italian must be preceded by a detailed abstract in French.