

University of Zagreb
Faculty of Law

FLCL

Foreign Language Centre for Law

The Centre: General Objectives

The **Foreign Language Centre for Law** is an organizational unit of the Faculty of Law, Zagreb, with the legal status of a faculty branch. It is intended to

- bring together scholars with an interest in the interface between law and language,
- to provide a platform for interdisciplinary interaction and to explore opportunities for collaborative and comparative initiatives in this field,
- and to disseminate the outcomes of related curriculum development and research projects.

The Centre has been initiated in January 2007 within the framework of the European Tempus Project “Foreign Languages in the Field of Law”.

Cooperating partners are the Law Faculties of Osijek, Rijeka and Split, the Faculty of Philosophy, Zagreb, the Croatian Ministry of Justice/Judicial Academy, the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, the universities of Antwerp (Belgium), Innsbruck (Austria), London South Bank (UK), Mannheim (Germany) and Paris II (France), and the Forensic Institute in Caer-narvon (Wales, UK).

Teaching

The Centre organizes highly professional work in the teaching of languages for special purposes, and will more particularly

- ensure continuous teacher training in foreign languages for law by organizing workshops in all related fields;
- update and develop foreign language curricula and teaching methodology on BA and MA levels at Croatian law faculties according to the Bologna requirements;
- introduce intensive language training courses for legal practitioners within the framework of lifelong education;
- establish and maintain the necessary hardware and software for computer assisted language learning;
- organize lectures on law related subjects in foreign languages by scholars from abroad.

Research

The Centre conducts scientific research for the teaching of languages for special purposes and other law related linguistic fields, including:

- language education for law professionals: curriculum development, teaching methods, materials, sources;
- analysis of legal discourse in different legal systems;
- forensic linguistics;
- language in litigation and arbitration;
- legal terminology and lexicology;

- legal translation and court interpreting;
- interpretation of legal instruments;
- legal drafting and transparency;
- intercultural legal communication;
- legal and linguistic aspects of multi-lingualism;
- and other related fields.

The Centre organizes conferences and workshops in the above mentioned fields of research.

Service

The Centre acts also as host to:

(1) the research project *Legal and Linguistic Aspects of Multi-lingualism (in the Context of the Croatian Accession to the EU)* sponsored by the Ministry of Science,

Education and Sports in the Republic of Croatia (see next page);

(2) the *Eurolinguistic Network South-East (ENSE)* (see next page).

Managerial Board:

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Dr. Andrea Horić
Mr. sc. Marijana Javornik-Čubrić
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Research Project:

Legal and Linguistic Aspects of Multilingualism (in the Context of the Croatian Accession to the EU)

The project will comprise interdisciplinary theoretical and applied studies of legal and linguistic aspects of multilingualism in general, focusing on the EU and Croatia.

Theoretical research will include issues such as:

- language policies and planning in the EU, with a special emphasis on the status of small and medium-sized languages;
- the status of Croatian and its relations with other European languages, with an emphasis on the relationship between language and identity;
- linguistic rights as a category of human rights;
- the actual status of minority and regional languages in the EU and Croatia in a comparative perspective;
- the status of immigrant languages;
- intercultural communication, especially in the context of the four freedoms in the EU law (free

movement of goods, persons, capital and services).

Croatian collaborators:

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Mr. sc. Dragica Dragičević, Zagreb
Mr. sc. Marijana Javornik Čubrić, Zagreb
Mr. sc. Ivana Jerolimov, Zagreb
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Prof. Dr. sc. Siniša Rodin, Zagreb
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International collaborators:

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Prof. Dr. Heinrich Michael Pfandl, Graz (Austria)
Prof. Dr. sc. Nada Šabec, Maribor (Slovenia)
Prof. Dr. Sture Ureland, Mannheim (Germany)

Eurolinguistic Network South-East (ENSE)

ENSE is an informal network of scholars active in the field of Eurolinguistics. It is a founding member of the *Eurolinguistic Association* (ELA) with the present seat in Mannheim (Germany).

The aims of ENSE are the advancement, representation, and co-ordination of Eurolinguistics in South-Eastern Europe in an interdisciplinary context, more specific:

- the study of multilingualism as a subject of research and as a factor of glottogenesis both synchronically and diachronically;
- the study of contacts between languages and linguistic properties common to European languages which reflect such contacts: language typology both in a synchronic and diachronic perspective;
- the study of European lesser-used languages in contact or conflict with major

European languages;

- the study of European languages in a global context: Global Eurolinguistics;
- the promotion of multilingual pro-grammes for language learning and teaching.

Members are invited to the annual Eurolinguistic Symposium and receive the Eurolinguistic Newsletter published by the *Eurolinguistic Association*.

Coordination Committee:

Doc. Dr. sc. Lelija Sočanac, Zagreb (chair)
Dr Vesna Muhvić-Dimanovski, Zagreb (vice-chair)
Mr. sc. Magdalena Nigoević, Split (secretary)
Dr. Andrea Horić, Zagreb
Mr. sc. Marijana Javornik-Čubrić, Zagreb

Contact via the Foreign Language Centre for Law, University of Zagreb.