

16.–17. oktober / Oktober / October 2026 · Klagenfurt / Celovec

Models and Methodologies for Minoritised Languages in Education

Modelle und Methoden für minorisierte Sprachen im Bildungswesen

Modeli in metodologije za manjšinske jezike v izobraževanju

An international FOSTERLANG conference
Eine internationale FOSTERLANG-Konferenz
Mednarodna konferenca FOSTERLANG

Pädagogische Hochschule Kärnten · University of Teacher Education Carinthia · Univerza za pedagoško izobraževanje na Koroškem

Slowenisch in Kärnten, Sorbisch in Deutschland, Friulanisch in Italien, Ungarisch in Slowenien, Kaschubisch in Polen – Wie gelingt Bildung in anerkannten Minderheitensprachen? Welche Modelle und Methoden bewähren sich im Unterricht, und was brauchen Lehrpersonen und Sprachgemeinschaften dafür?

Die internationale Konferenz im Rahmen des EU-Projekts FOSTERLANG bringt Schulpraxis, Forschung, Bildungsverwaltung und Minderheitenorganisationen zusammen. Erfahrungen aus Katalonien und dem spanischen Baskenland treffen auf die Situation von Minderheitensprachen in Österreich, Slowenien, Italien, Polen, Deutschland und Großbritannien. Ein Panel öffnet den Blick für globale Vergleiche. Keynotes, Diskussionen und ein partizipativer Workshop thematisieren die Steuerung und Selbstorganisation von Minderheitensprachen, die Unterrichtspraxis und die europäischen Rahmenbedingungen minderheitensprachlicher Bildung.

Der Tagungsort ist bewusst gewählt: Kärnten/Koroška verfügt über ein langjähriges zweisprachiges Schulwesen mit Stärken, aber auch Schwächen. Seine Erfahrungen und offenen Fragen fließen in den internationalen Austausch ein.

Konferenzsprache ist Englisch. Diskussionsbeiträge auf Slowenisch, Deutsch und in anderen Sprachen sind ausdrücklich willkommen, ganz im Sinne des Themas. Die Tagung ist kostenlos, Anmeldung erforderlich.

Slovenščina na Koroškem, lužiška srbščina v Nemčiji, furlanščina v Italiji in madžarščina v Sloveniji, kašubščina na Poljskem – kako uspeva izobraževanje v priznanih manjšinskih jezikih? Kateri modeli in metode se obnesejo pri pouku in kaj pri tem potrebujejo učitelji in jezikovne skupnosti?

Mednarodna konferenca v okviru projekta EU FOSTERLANG povezuje šolsko prakso, raziskovanje, izobraževalno upravo in manjšinske organizacije. Izkušnje iz Katalonije in španske Baskije se bodo srečale s položajem manjšinskih jezikov v Avstriji, Sloveniji, Italiji, na Poljskem, v Nemčiji in Veliki Britaniji. Ena izmed sekcij nudi vpogled v globalne primerjave. Osrednji govori, razprave in participativna delavnica obravnavajo upravljanje in samoorganizacijo manjšinskih jezikov, pouk in evropske okvire manjšinskega jezikovnega izobraževanja.

Kraj konference ni izbran naključno: Koroška ima dolgoletno dvojezično šolstvo s prednostmi, pa tudi s slabostmi. Njegove izkušnje in odprta vprašanja se vključujejo v mednarodno izmenjavo.

Konferenčni jezik bo angleščina. Prispevki k razpravi v slovenščini, nemščini in drugih jezikih so dobrodošli, kar je v skladu z obravnavano tematiko. Udeležba je brezplačna, potrebna je zgolj prijava.

Slovene in Carinthia, Sorbian in Germany, Friulan in Italy, Hungarian in Slovenia, Kashubian in Poland – how can education succeed in recognised minority languages? Which models and methods prove their worth in the classroom, and what do teachers and language communities need to make it work?

The international conference, part of the EU project FOSTERLANG, brings together school practice, research, educational administration and minority organisations. Experiences from Catalonia and the Spanish Basque Country meet the situation of minority languages in Austria, Slovenia, Italy, Poland, Germany and the United Kingdom. One panel opens the view to global comparisons. Keynotes, discussions and a participatory workshop address the governance and self-organisation of minority languages, classroom practice, and the European frameworks of minority-language education.

The venue is a deliberate choice: Carinthia/Kärnten/Koroška has a long-standing bilingual school system with strengths, but also weaknesses. Its experience and open questions feed into the international exchange.

The conference language is English. Contributions to the discussion in Slovene, German and other languages are expressly welcome, entirely in keeping with the theme. Attendance is free; registration required.

16 October 2026 — Friday

Time	Programme Item	Participants
07:45–10:30	School visit	<i>optional, prior registration required</i>
10:30–11:15	Transfer / Arrival at PHK, Conference Registration	
11:15–12:00	Welcome Speeches & Fosterlang introduction	Official representatives (incl. Organisers / Fosterlang)
12:00–13:00	Keynote 1 – Catalanian Case	Mònica Pereña (Linguapax International & Catalan Government; formerly Deputy Director of Multilingualism, Catalan Ministry of Education)
13:00–14:00	Lunch	
14:00–15:15	Panel 1 – Strengthening Minority-Language Education through Governance	Michael Urbinc , Education Directorate for Carinthia Sergio Crasnich , National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, Regional Unit Koper/Capodistria Elizabeta Tóth , National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, Regional Unit Murska Sobota
15:15–16:30	Panel 2 – The Role of Minority Self-Organisation in Minority-Language Education	Artur Jabłoński & Anna Kościukiewicz-Jabłońska , Naja Szkòła (Kashubian minority, PL) Danilo Katz , Slovenian Pedagogical Association Carinthia, AT Andrea Bartole & Chiara Vianello , Coastal Self-Governing Community of the Italian Nationality (Italian minority, SI) Alen Vugrinec , Hungarian Self-Governing National Community of Pomurje (Hungarian minority, SI)
16:30–17:00	Coffee break	
17:00–17:45	Keynote 2 – Basque Country Case	Maria Begoña Iturgaiz Rodríguez (Institute for Basque and Language Learning)
17:45–19:00	Panel 3 – Models and Methods of Minority-Language Education in Practice: Challenges and Perspectives	Hanna Ellwart , Naja Szkòła (Kashubian minority, PL) Carinthian Slovene teachers & principals Eva Zojer , Komenský School Association (Czech and Slovak minority, AT) Monika Tylawska , Ruska Bursa (Lemko minority, PL)
19:00–19:15	Exhibition – Borders and Migration: In the Garden of the (In)visibles. Introduction to the exhibition	Giuseppe Grimaldi (University of Trieste)
19:15	Departure to joint dinner (<i>registration required</i>)	

17 October 2026 — Saturday

Time	Programme Item	Participants
08:45–09:15	Arrival & Morning Coffee	
09:15–10:15	Keynote 3 – Pedagogical Translanguaging	Durk Gorter (University of the Basque Country)
10:15–10:30	Coffee break	
10:30–12:15	Panel 4 – (Comparative) Research Perspectives on Minority-Language Education	Judith Purkarthofer (University of Duisburg-Essen) – Researching and communicating language organisation Luca Melchior (University of Klagenfurt) – Friulan education in Italy Franco Finco (University of Teacher Education Carinthia) – German education in Italy Ursula Doleschal (University of Klagenfurt) – Slovene education in Austria Sophie Rädcl (Sorbian Institute) – Sorbian education in Germany
12:15–13:15	Lunch	
13:15–14:50	Participatory Workshop with Teachers and Educational Experts	
14:50–15:15	Coffee break	
15:15–16:15	Joint Keynote 4 – Minority-Language Education: European Perspectives and Frameworks	Brigitta Busch (University of Vienna; Stellenbosch University; University of Teacher Education Carinthia) & Petra Roter (University of Ljubljana)
16:15–16:30	Coffee break	
16:30–18:00	Panel 5 – Minority-Language Education: Global Comparisons and Theoretical Perspectives	Justyna Olko (University of Warsaw) John Sullivan (University of Warsaw; Instituto de Docencia e Investigación Etnológica de Zacatecas) Emilia Wąsikiewicz-Firlej (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań) Elin Haf Gruffydd Jones (University of Wales Trinity Saint David)
18:00–18:30	Closing Discussion, Synthesis and Fosterlang Outlook	
18:30	Departure to joint dinner (<i>registration required</i>)	

All panels follow the same format: 10-minute inputs per contribution, followed by a panel discussion.

Registration and General Information

Registration is requested via <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/VSSuLBaVSL> – the same form covers the optional school visit and both joint dinners.



The conference language is English. In keeping with the subject of this conference, contributions to the discussions in other languages (such as Slovene or German, the languages of this region) are expressly welcome; the chairs will summarise them in English where needed.

The school visit on Friday morning takes place at a bilingual German–Slovene school in Carinthia. Details on venue and meeting point will be sent to registered participants.

Transfer – Arrival / Departure

- Vienna Airport, train to Klagenfurt/Celovec (approx. 3h 40min)
- Graz Airport, train to Klagenfurt/Celovec (approx. 1h)
- Train from Munich Airport (approx. 5h 30min)
- Ljubljana Airport, taxi transfer can be arranged on request (approx. 50min)
- Less recommended: Trieste or Venice Airports, with international train connection

Recommended Accommodation

Hotel	Address	Location
Ibis Styles Klagenfurt am Wörthersee	Viktringer Ring 28, 9020 Klagenfurt, Austria	View on Google Maps
Hotel Atrigon	Kinoplatz 6, 9020 Klagenfurt, Austria	View on Google Maps
Garner Hotel Klagenfurt – Moser Verdino by IHG	Jacques-Lemans-Platz 2, 9020 Klagenfurt, Austria	View on Google Maps
Seepark Wörthersee Hotel	Universitätsstraße 104, 9020 Klagenfurt am Wörthersee, Austria	View on Google Maps

Transfer to the University of Teacher Education Carinthia (Hubertusstraße 1) from all hotels by public bus (approx. 20min).

Inquiries and Contact

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