Symposium
organized by the ECSPM
(European Civil Society Platform for Multilingualism)

BEYOND LANGUAGE BARRIERS

Friday, 1st December 2017

With the generous support of:
the Hellenic Open University (HOU)
& the School of Education,
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
Programme

10.00-10.30 Welcome address: Ms Sulochana Gielser, Goethe Institute Athens, Representative of EUNIC in Greece
Introduction to the ECSPM: Prof. Bessie Dendrinos, President

10.30-11.45 Social, aesthetic and linguistic literacies for the creative participation in European societies of displaced populations and people in adversity
a) Prof. Thalia Draga: “Curing the limbo” An intervention for the integration of refugees by the Municipality of Athens
b) Prof. George Androulakis: Research-driven educational actions for refugees: the project P.R.E.S.S. of the Hellenic Open University
c) Prof. Mary Leontsini “Democratic School Governance for Inclusion (of refugees and immigrants): a whole community approach”. A project of the School of Education, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens

11.45-12.15 Coffee break

12.15-13.15 Relevant work carried out in Europe's multilingualism centres
a) Dr Cor van der Meer “Critical Skills in Life and Work” A project focussed on immigrants, by the “Mercator European Research Centre on Multilingualism and Language Learning” hosted in the Frysk Academy, in Fryslân, the Netherlands
b) Dr Theo Marinis, “ProLanguage: The protective role of language in global migration and mobility: Language policies in refugee settings”. A project by the Centre for Literacy and Multilingualism of the University of Reading, Reading, UK

13.15-14.30 Lunch break

14.30-15.30 The role of translation, technology and linguistic resources for the safe-guarding of multilingualism in Europe
a) Dr Stelios Piperidis: Regional European delegate “European Language Resource Coordination”– project of the Connecting Europe Facility aiming at creating a Digital Single Market in Europe (initiated by the European Commission to overcome one of the main challenges of the language barrier faced by EU member state services, ministries and citizens)
b) The work of ECSPM partner organisation: “Cracking the Language Barriers”
c) Ms Alexandra Büchler: Director of “Literature Across Frontiers”, a European Platform for Literary Exchange, Translation and Policy Debate, aiming to develop intercultural dialogue through literature and translation, as well as to highlight less translated literatures.

15.30-16.30 The work of other ECSPM member and partner organisations
a) Ms Guðrún Gísladóttir: European Artists’ Rights,
b) Mr Vicent Fennollar i Sastre: The Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity
c) Sarah Breslin, The European Centre of Modern Languages
d) Ms Ulla Alexandra Matti: The Lifelong Learning Platform - European Civil Society for Education
e) Prof. Terry Lamb: The International Federation of Language Teacher Associations
f) Mr Johan Van Hoorde: The European Federation of National Institutions for Language
g) Prof. Tanja Rinker: Center for Multilingualism, University of Konstanz