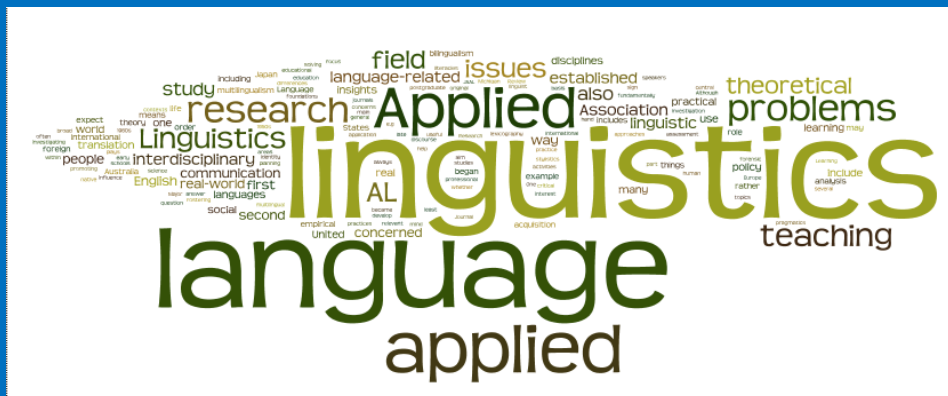# Societas Linguistica Europaea

## NEWSLETTER - AUGUST 2024



### SLE 2024 - Helsinki

### Next conference

The next Annual Meeting of the SLE will be held on 21-24 August at the University of Helsinki.

More than 600 participants have registered for this year's annual meeting.

Check out the list of accepted papers and workshops and find more details on pp. 2-3.

### New SLE YouTube channel

New initiative. See p. 7.

### Anna Siewierska Award

Yunfan Lai won the Siewierska Award for the best *Folia Linguistica* (*Historica*) paper of 2022. See p. 4.

### Research grants

Find out more about how to fund your research initiative on pp. 5-6.

### Call for vacant positions

We are searching for new SLE officers. More info on p. 7.

### News and updates

New section. See pp. 12-14

### Folia Linguistica (Historica)

### New issues

SLE is pleased to announce a new issue of *Folia Linguistica (Historica)*, which you can access with the passcode for Institutions. See pp. 8-11.
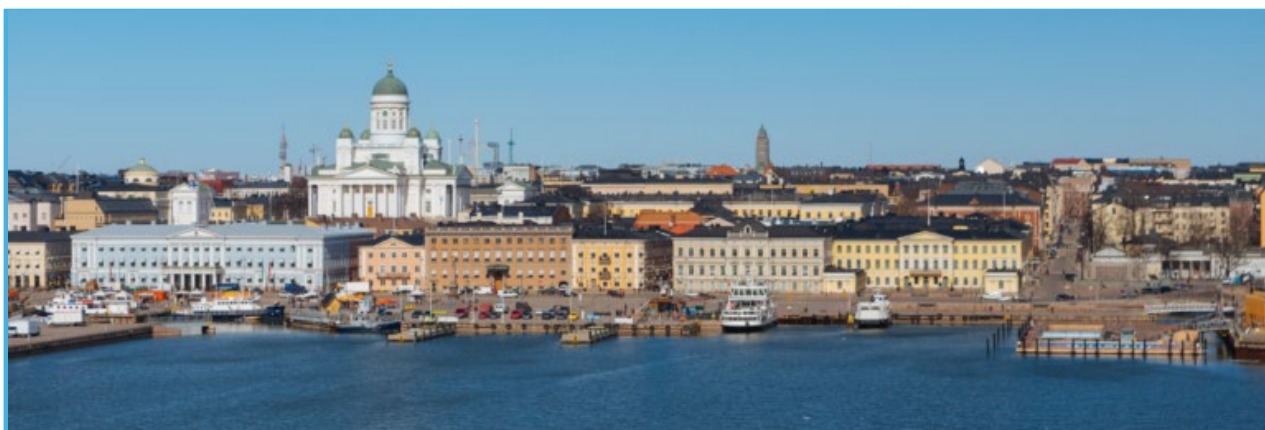
### Feeding the Newsletter

A working newsletter for and by members can only be successful if there is enough incoming information.

Members are invited to submit their announcements of meetings and publications **here**.

SLE membership is stable. SLE currently has 1350 members.

Renew your membership and tell your colleagues that it makes sense to be a member of the SLE community.

# SLE 2024 Helsinki

## 57th Annual SLE Meeting

https://societaslinguistica.eu/sle2024/

## SLE 2024

Have a look at the SLE 2024 website.

**Presidential address**: Eva Schultze-Berndt (University of Manchester)

**Plenary speakers**: Brigitte Pakendorf (DRCE, CNRS), Sandra Auderset (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology), Víctor Royo Viñuales (Université de Liège, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)

**ROUND TABLE "Decolonization and linguistics – opportunities and challenges"**, moderator: Eeva Sippola (University of Helsinki), invited speakers: Maria Mazzoli (University of Groningen), Pius Akumbu (LLACAN), Hanna Máret-Outakoski (Umeå University)

Feel free to send us questions for the Round Table to: sle@kuleuven.be



All the activities of the Helsinki SLE meeting will be held at the Main Building of the University of Helsinki by the Senate Square. The campus is in the city center of Helsinki. (https://www.helsinki.fi/en/about-us/campuses/guide-visitors).

There will be a welcome reception on Wednesday evening (included in the registration fee), a walking tour in Helsinki's historical city center combined with a reception in the City Hall on Thursday (included in the registration fee) and a conference dinner and party on Friday evening (not included in the conference fee). On Saturday afternoon and on Sunday, there will be a number of excursions.

SLE 2024 Special Outreach Session

### *Communicating linguistics research: results and prospects*

The SLE 2023 conference in Athens included an outreach session, in which a number of conference participants reported on some national and local initiatives aiming for dispersing linguistic knowledge more widely among the general public (video recording available at the SLE YouTube channel. As a result, a number of future activities are being prepared, among which a manifesto about Linguistics in Schools (see p. 8 in the SLE Newsletter from October 2023).

At SLE 2024 in Helsinki, a special session will be organized on science communication **research** related to linguistics. The goal is to present and discuss results from actual research that is relevant to communicating linguistics. This may range from empirical research or practical experience on factors determining the success (or lack thereof) of a specific linguistics communication project, to consequences or implications of general science communication research for the specific field of linguistics.

Convenors: Alexandru Nicolae (alexandru.nicolae@unibuc.ro) and Arie Verhagen (A.Verhagen@hum.leidenuniv.nl).

The **2023 Anna Siewierska Award**
for the best *Folia Linguistica* (*Historica*) paper
goes to **Yunfan Lai**

for **When internal reconstruction goes further: proposing the vowel system of Pre-Khroskyabs through examining bound state apophony**
*Folia Linguistica Historica* 43(1), 2022, 213-261 (link to the paper)

All articles published in 2022 in the two journals and special issue were evaluated by the Award Committee, consisting of: Arie Verhagen (chair), Olga Fischer, Maria Napoli, Heiko Narrog, Muriel Norde.

**Abstract:** This paper proposes an internal reconstruction of the vowel system of Pre-Khroskyabs by analysing bound state apophony in modern Siyuewu Khroskyabs. While most modern Khroskyabs dialects do not exhibit sufficient variations of bound state apophony, Siyuewu Khroskyabs is conservative in this regard. The internal reconstruction deals with the different reflexes between final and nonfinal vowels in modern Khroskyabs dialects, and postulates a unified origin for them, by hypothesising two series of vowels, velarised and plain. Velarisation in Pre-Khroskyabs is then compared with uvularisation in Tangut, showing regular correspondences between the two. This work demonstrates that velarisation is an important feature that can be reconstructed back to Proto-Gyalrongic, and that it helps us in understanding Trans-Himalayan historical linguistics. Additionally, it can be seen through this paper that internal reconstruction is an indispensable procedure in reconstructing the history of a language, as a significant portion of vocalic contrasts cannot be reconstructed by cross-linguistic comparisons alone.

**Appraisal by the Anna Siewierska Award Committee:** This paper offers a brilliant, elaborate and original solution to a complicated problem in Trans-Himalayan historical linguistics, proving the importance of the phonological trait of velarisation, and provides a clear demonstration of the advantages of combining internal reconstruction with cross-linguistic comparison. Its starting point, indeed, is the acknowledgement that comparison based on different modern Khroskyabs dialects (Gyalrongic, Trans-Himalayan) does not provide enough evidence for the reconstruction of the vowel system of Pre-Khroskyabs: to understand the phonological changes of the vowels in the proto-language internal reconstruction is also needed. This is what the author shows by using first-hand data of Khroskyabs – mainly, of the Siyuewu dialect – and other Gyalrongic languages, not extensively described until now and not so widely investigated from a diachronic point of view. Firstly, Lai analyses the phenomenon of apophony in Siyuewu Khroskyabs as documented in nouns in the bound state, which is found with non-verbal and verbal compounds, recognised as preserving a conservative pattern. He identifies a high variety of vocalic alternations in the bound state as compared with the base form of the noun. Secondly, this detailed description is used as the basis for a compelling reconstruction of various stages and pathways of sound change, different for final and non-final vowels, leading to the vowel system of Proto-Khroskyabs. One of the main results of this reconstruction, corroborated by a further comparison with other modern Gyalrongic varieties, is the hypothesis that all bound state vowels had a velarised counterpart, with the exception of \*-*e*: it was velarisation which blocked vowel raising. In the final part of Lai's paper, through a comparison between velarisation in Khroskyabs and uvularisation in Tangut, recently classified as a West Gyalrongic language rather than as a Qiangic language, it is argued that the two features and, as a consequence, the two languages are historically related. The paper is remarkable for its innovative approach, insightful description of synchronic data and ingenious use of these data for diachronic analyses, which makes it a pioneering work in the field of Sino-Tibetan. The SLE Anna Siewierska Award Committee commends Yunfan Lai for his outstanding paper significantly contributing to investigation of phonological changes, to reconstruction and, then, to historical linguistics.

# Research grants

The SLE offers research grants. Eligible candidates should be SLE members **at the time of applying for the grants**. Those who wish to apply should log in to the members' page, look for the Fill in the Application Form (online) (under "What can I do in the members' area?"), and click on the link.

**Criteria for evaluating applications:**

New, original  research project

Wealth and breadth of the study, both theoretically and empirically

Focus on methodological challenges

Novel contribution to further research in the field

Training of PhD students

Relevance of scientific work

## Junior researcher/ early career researcher grant

Frequency: annually

Prize: €2,000

Number of grants: 2 per year

Next award date: 15 January 2025

Application deadline: 15 December 2024

Eligible candidates: junior researchers who have completed their doctoral degree within the last six years, SLE members

Grant expenditure: travel for data collection, essential equipment, compensation for participants, materials, literature purchase, etc.

Award Committee: three to five members, including a chairperson (members of the EC and selected members of the Scientific Committee)

Application to be filled out via a form available through the members' page.

The document to be uploaded via the form consists of:

– a short CV of the applicant(s) (max. 1 page each, Calibri 11)

– a description of the project (max. 2 pages, Calibri 11)

– motivation letter and a budget proposal (max. 1 page, Calibri 11)

The application will be peer reviewed for scientific merit.

A brief written report on scientific results and finances will need to be submitted upon completion of the grant, before the end of the calendar year.

## **Doctoral candidate research grant**

<u>Frequency</u>: annually

<u>Prize</u>: €2,000

<u>Number of grants</u>: 2 per year

<u>Next award date</u>: 15 January 2025

<u>Application deadline</u>: 15 December 2024

<u>Eligible candidates</u>: doctoral candidates in linguistics, with a dissertation proposal approved by their institution authorities, SLE members

<u>Grant expenditure</u>: travel for data collection, essential equipment, compensation for participants, materials, literature purchase, conference fee and travel, etc.

<u>Award Committee</u>: three to five members, including a chairperson (members of the EC and selected members of the Scientific Committee)

Application to be filled out via a form available through the members' page.

The document to be uploaded via the form consists of:

– a short CV of the applicant(s) (max. 1 page each, Calibri 11)

– a description of the project (max. 2 pages, Calibri 11)

– motivation letter and a budget proposal (max. 1 page, Calibri 11)

The application will be peer reviewed for scientific merit.

A brief written report on scientific results and finances will need to be submitted upon completion of the grant, before the end of the calendar year.

## **Joint initiatives with support of SLE**

<u>Frequency</u>: annually

<u>Prize</u>: €2,000

<u>Number of grants</u>: 1 per year

<u>Next award date</u>: 15 January 2025

<u>Application deadline</u>: 15 December 2024

<u>Applicants</u>: SLE members from at least three European countries

<u>Aim</u>: joint thematic workshops

<u>Grant expenditure</u>: travel costs for speaker(s), equipment, catering

<u>Award Committee</u>: three to five members, including a chairperson (members of the EC and selected members of the Scientific Committee)

Application to be filled out via a form available through the members' page.

The document to be uploaded via the form consists of:

– a short CV of the applicants (max. 1 page each, Calibri 11)

– a description of the initiative and a link to a website (max. 2 pages, Calibri 11)

– motivation letter and a budget proposal (max. 1 page, Calibri 11)

The application will be peer reviewed for scientific merit.

A brief written report on scientific results and finances will need to be submitted upon completion of the grant, before the end of the calendar year.

**Vacant Officer positions in 2025.**

**Next year SLE will be looking for:**

- two new members of the Executive Committee (EC),
- one member of the Scientific Committee (SC),
- one member of the Nominating Committee (NC).

*Officers commit themselves to take on organizational responsibilities such as the Publications Award Committee (EC), the Newsletter (EC), the coordination of the reviewing process (SC), the coordination of the selection of officers (NC).*

Application for SLE officer:
If you are interested in serving the SLE from within, submit your short CV (1 page) and motivation letter, specifying the function(s) you want to apply for (1 page) to the Members' Area by **15 January 2025, 12 pm**. Put the CV and the letter together in one document that bears your name.

The Nominating Committee will take a decision before **1 July 2025**. Once decided, the slate will be communicated to the SLE membership.

# SLE YouTube channel

The *Societas Linguistica Europaea* is proud to announce its new YouTube channel.

Recordings showing the SLE 2023 presidential address and all the talks of the Linguistics Outreach session are available to everyone.

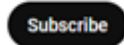Be sure to also check out the Online SLE Lectures series, including the first two lectures.

Subscribe to the channel to get updates.

**Societas Linguistica Europaea**
@Societas_Linguistica_Europaea · 31 subscribers · 12 videos
More about this channel  >

Subscribe

# Folia Linguistica (Historica)

**YOUR ACCESS TO *FOLIA LINGUISTICA* (*HISTORICA*)**

As a member of the Societas Linguistica Europaea you are entitled to complimentary access to the journals *Folia Linguistica* and *Folia Linguistica Historica*. You can access them using the following link:

https://www.degruyter.com/view/j/flin

**INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO ENTER THE INSTITUTIONAL ACCESS PASSCODE**

(1) Check out the following Access Link. (this must only be redeemed once by each individual member)

(2) To gain access, you need to have a personal account on www.degruyter.com.

(3) Please log in with your existing account or register a new one. Clicking on the link above will guide you through this process.

(4) At the end of the activation process, you will reach the "MyPublications" section of the website which lists all publications you have access to on degruyer.com.

(5) From there you can directly access your newly activated product(s).

## Ahead of print / Just accepted

Antonio Daniele. Detecting angloversal tendencies in the outer circle: a pilot study on a Maltese English speaker

Anna Oczko. Toponymic unity of the Carpathian region

Lívia Körtvélyessy. In search of a semiotic model for onomatopoeia

Diego Gabriel Krivochen. Constituents, arrays, and trees: two (more) models of grammatical description

Irene Lami, Maria Silvia Micheli, Jan Radimský, Joost van de Weijer. Gender agreement in Italian compounds with *capo-*

Ludovica Lena. Encoding indefinite human reference without indefinite pronouns: the case of Chinese presentationals

Ronald I. Kim. The Indo-Iranian background of the Ossetic future.

Keolakawai K. G. Spencer. Distinguish Hawai'I Creole *neva* and *néva*: prosodic evidence from podcast interviews.

Liulin Zhang. What is a Chinese word? Lexical constructionalization in Chinese.

Sérgio N. Menete, Guiying Jiang. Another member out of the family: the description of manner of gait in Changana verbs of motion.

Timur Maisak, Samira Verhees. The 'Still Not' Present in Andi: identifying the grammaticalization source.

Elsi Kaiser. Evidentials and dubitatives in Finnish: perspectives shift in questions and embedded contexts.

Nadine Dietrich. The seamlessness of grammatical innovation: the case of *be going to* (revisited)

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Martina Faller. The interrogative flip with illocutionary evidentials.

Cecilia Mihaela Popescu. Romanian presumptive in interaction: evidentiality and beyond.

Elizabeth M. Riddle. Evidential strategies in English: not just lexical.

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Agnès Celle. The epistemic conditional in polar questions as an argumentative strategy.

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Colin Brown. Conjectural questions in Sm'algyax.

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*Glossa Contact*

**Call for papers**

**Information on submission of papers can be found <u>here</u>.**

*Glossa Contact* is the proud new member of the Glossa family of linguistics journals.

It is a new international open-access peer-reviewed journal devoted to the triggers, effects and processes of language contact, symbiosis and change in multilingual settings. It invites original contributions of both empirical and theoretical nature, from any theoretical perspective, concerning any synchronic, diachronic, oral, written or signed dimensions of language contact.

Articles may approach contact and contact-induced change from any disciplinary perspective, including historical, typological, acquisition, anthropological, sociolinguistic, syntactical, phonological, semantic, pragmatic, philological, phylogenetic, computational. Theoretical perspectives include, but are not limited to functional, formal (generative or otherwise) and anthropological perspectives.

The journal is open to, and particularly welcomes, contributions that attempt to cross the disciplinary divides and present their findings in a form accessible to the wide and diverse community of language-contact scholars. Most importantly, Editors will actively push the authors to cross the disciplinary boundaries by providing editorial comments and seeking reviews which engage this 'other', hidden potential of the papers submitted.

Glossa Contact is looking forward to receiving your submissions:
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### *Master's Degree in Theoretical and Experimental Linguistics*

### University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU)

### All information concerning the master's courses, prices, registration process etc. is available [here](). See also the [Brochure]().



#### Introduction and objectives

The Master's Degree in Theoretical and Experimental Linguistics offers a general and unifying view of Linguistics. Its aim is to provide students with the competencies required for the study of both theoretical and experimental Linguistics. It allows students to specialize in the areas of Phonetics and Phonology, Syntax and Morphology, Semantics and Pragmatics, Typology, Historical and Comparative Linguistics, Psycholinguistics and Neurolinguistics. Due to its unifying character, it also promotes interdisciplinary research work in any combination of these areas from both a synchronic and a diachronic perspective.

Students who complete the Program of Studies will be able to engage in the study of any language (with the added value that it offers the possibility of in-depth study of the Basque language). Importantly, the Master is fundamentally oriented towards research work leading to further doctoral studies. English friendly master: Students must be able to follow classes in Spanish, but they will be allowed to be evaluated in English.

#### Entry profile

Prospective students are expected to have basic knowledge of Linguistics, as provided by the Degrees in Philology, Modern and Classical Languages, Linguistics and Translation and Interpreting. Students with other degrees, such as Philosophy, Logic, Psychology or Education (esp. Foreign Language), must have shown an interest in the human language faculty during their studies. Candidates that wish to be admitted to the Program must include an application essay where they state their motivation for studying Linguistics.