LT4All 2025

Language Technologies for All

International Conference
**Language Technologies for All (LT4All):
Advancing Humanism through Language Technologies**
24 - 26 February 2025
UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, France

in the framework of
the International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032
and to commemorate
the Silver Jubilee of International Mother Language Day 2025

Organized by

24 February 2025
THEME: ACHIEVEMENTS
Advancements in Language Technologies: Achieving Inclusivity and Accessibility for All
(Room II and Poster area: Hall Segur)

08:00 – 09:30: Registration

09:30 – 10:15   Inauguration by High-level Representatives

09:30 – 09:40	**Master of Ceremony: Mr. Guilherme Canela de Souza Godoi** (Director for Division for Digital Inclusion and Policies and Digital Transformation and Secretary of the Information for All Programme (IFAP), UNESCO)
09:40 – 09:47	**Mr. Tawfik Jelassi** (Assistant Director General for Communication and Information, UNESCO)
09:47 – 09:54	**Mr. Eric Thill** (Minister of Culture, Government of Luxembourg)
09:54 – 10:01	**Ms. Agnete Masterens Hanssen** (State Secretary, Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development, Norway)
10:01 – 10:08	**Mr. Paul de Sinety** (Délégué Général à la Langue Française et aux Langues de France, Ministère de la Culture, France)
10:08 – 10:15	**Mr. Simon Krek** (President, ELRA Language Resources Association (ELRA), Slovenia)

10:15 – 10:30   LT4All Overview by Organizing Committee

10:15 – 10:20	**Mr. Jaco Du Toit** (Chief of the Section for Universal Access to Information and Digital Inclusion, Division for Digital Inclusion and Policies and Digital Transformation, and Secretariat of the Information for All Programme, UNESCO).
10:20 – 10:25	**Ms. Sakriani Sakti** (Professor and Head of the Human-AI Interaction Research Laboratory at Nara Institute of Science and Technology, Japan, Member of ELRA Language Resources Association (ELRA) Board, and Chair of International Speech Communication Association (ISCA)/ELRA Special Interest Group of Under-resourced Languages (SIGUL))
10:25 – 10:30	**Ms. Maite Melero** (Established Researcher, Barcelona Supercomputing Center, Spain) / **Ms. Alice Millour** (Associate Professor, Université Paris 8 Vincennes Saint-Denis, France)

10:30 – 11:00 Setting the Scene

Moderators Onsite:

Mr. Gernot Kubin	Professor, Graz University of Technology (TU Graz), Austria

Moderator Online:

Ms. Cao Luwen	Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Rapporteur:

Mr. David Yarowsky	Professor, Johns Hopkins University, USA

10:30 – 10:40	**Mr. Sarmad Hussain** (Senior Director Internationalized Domain Names (IDN) and Universal Acceptance (UA) Programs, Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), Pakistan) "***Internationalized Domain Names and Universal Acceptance for Digital Inclusion***"
10:40 – 10:50	**Mr. Christopher Morse** (Computational Linguistic, Zenter fir d'Lëtzebuerger Sprooch, Ministry of Culture of Luxembourg, Luxembourg) "***Redefining Progress in the Margins: Lessons from Big Tech & Small Data***"
10:50 – 11:00	**QA Session**

11:00 – 11:40 [40 minutes] Coffee Break + Poster Session

Coffee Break offered by the Government of Luxembourg during a short presentation of the exhibition "D'Lëtzebuerger Sprooch(en)" by H.E. Mr Eric Thill, Minister of Culture of Luxembourg Salle des Pas Perdus

Poster Session P1: Language Technology for Language Diversity

11:40 – 13:20 Session O1: Language Technologies Advancements in Enabling Linguistic Diversity and Multilingualism

Moderators Onsite:

Ms. Denise DiPersio	Associate Director, Linguistic Data Consortium, University of Pennsylvania, USA
Mr. Ilan Kernerman	Chief Executive Officer, Lexicala by K Dictionaries, Israel

Moderator Online:

Mr. Jan Niehues	Professor, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany

Rapporteur:

Ms. Maite Melero	Established Researcher, Barcelona Supercomputing Center, Spain

11:40 – 12:00	**Mr. Christophe Ropers** (Linguistic Engineer, Meta AI, USA) / **Ms. Marta R. Costa-jussà** (Research Scientist, Meta AI, France) *"Automatic Speech Recognition and Machine Translation for all Languages"*
12:00 – 12:10	**Ms. Seza A. Dogruoz** (Associate Professor, Universiteit Gent, Belgium) "*Linguistic Diversity and Multilingualism for Humans and AI*"
12:10 – 12:20	**Ms. Anushah Hossain** (Research Director of Script Encoding Initiative, University of California, Berkeley, USA) "*Bridging Scripts and Standards: The work of the Script Encoding Initiative*"
12:20 – 12:30	**Mr. Wang Han** (TV Anchor & Advocate for LR Protection, Hunan Broadcasting System Media Group, China) "*From Media Communicator to Guardian of Languages: My Commitment to Protecting and promoting Linguistic Diversity*"
12:30 – 12:40	**Mr. Partha Talukdar** (Researcher, Google DeepMind, India) "*Towards Linguistically and Culturally Inclusive LLMs*"
12:40 – 12:50	**Mr. Alessandro Fusacchia** (Vice President of Social Impact, Translated, Italy) "*Towards a Truly Universal Translator?*"
12:50 – 13:20	**Panel Discussion**

13:20 – 14:30 [70 minutes] Lunch Break + Poster Session

Poster Session P2: Language Technology for Education, Inclusion, Innovation

14:30 – 16:00 Session O2: Language Technologies Innovations for Inclusive Communication Across All Ages & Diverse Abilities

Moderators Onsite:

Mr. Wolfgang Minker	Professor, Ulm University, Germany
Ms. Ethel Ong	Professor and Dean, De La Salle University, Philippines

Moderator Online:

Ms. Irina Illina	Associate Professor, LORIA-INRIA Grand Est, France

Rapporteur :

Mr. Eric Jackson	Assistant Professor of Practice, University of Arizona, USA

14:30 – 14:40	**Ms. Sainimili Tawake** (Chief Executive Officer, Pacific Disability Forum, Fiji) *"Inclusive Communication and Accessible Information: Empowering People with Disabilities in the Pacific"*
14:40 – 14:50	**Ms. Pooja Gambhir** (Assistant Professor, Amity Institute of Information Technology (AIIT), Amity University Noida, India) "***Breaking Barriers: Next-Gen Voice Activated Companion for Inclusive Mobility***"
14:50 – 15:00	**Mr. Martin Curzio** (CEO & Co-Founder, ELdeS – AI powered Sign Language Learning, Uruguay) "***The Silent Revolution: AI-Powered Sign Language for a Fully Accessible World***"
15:00 – 15:10	**Ms. Gifty Ayoka** (Executive Director, Talking Tipps Africa Foundation, Ghana) *"Inclusive Voices:Advancing Language Technology for people with impaired speech communicating in local languages"*
15:10 – 15:20	**Ms. Cao Luwen** (Adjunct Senior Research Fellow, National University of Singapore, Singapore) "***Natural Speech Analysis for Detecting Cognitive Decline: a Focus on Words and Voice Quality***"
15:20 – 15:30	**Mr. Shri Narayanan** (Professor & Vice President, University of Southern California, USA) "***Speech and Language Technologies for Mental Health and Wellbeing across Lifespan***"
15:30 – 16:00	**Panel Discussion**

16:00 – 16:40 [40 minutes] Coffee Break + Poster Session

Poster Session P3: Language Technology Solutions in a Multilingual World

16:40-18:20   Session 3: Language Technologies Solutions for Revitalizing Endangered Languages

Moderators Onsite:

Ms. Abake Adenle	Founder, Ajala.ai, United Kingdom
Mr. Garry Anaquod	Special Projects Coordinator, Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre, Canada

Moderator Online:

Ms. Uma Pappuswamy	Professor, Central Institute of Indian Languages, Manasagangotri, India

Rapporteur:

Mr. Lucas Ondel	Researcher, Laboratoire Interdisciplinaire des Sciences du Numérique - Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (LISN-CNRS), France

16:40 – 16:50	**Mr. Menno Van Zaanen** (Professor in Digital Humanities, South African Centre for Digital Language Resources (SADiLaR) / North West University, South Africa) "***The SWiP Project: Enhancing the Digital Presence of South African Languages on Wikipedia***"
16:50 – 17:00	**Ms. Cat Kutay** (Senior Lecturer, Charles Darwin University, Australia) "***Learning in Our Language***"
17:00 – 17:10	**Mr. Tatsuya Kawahara** (Professor, Kyoto University, Japan) "***Speech Technology for Preservation and Revitalization of the Ainu Language***"
17:10 – 17:20	**Mr. Mark Fišel** (Professor of Natural Language Processing, University of Tartu, Estonia) "***Smugri: Language Technologies for Low-Resource Finno-Ugric Languages and Dialects***"
17:20 – 17:30	**Ms. Jeannette Stewart** (Founder/President, Translation Commons, USA) *"Digital Tools for Cherokee and the Role of a Morphological Analyzer in Language Empowerment"*
17:30 – 17:40	**Mr. Nick Thieberger** (Director, PARADISEC, Australia) "***The importance of digital language and music archives for language and cultural continuity, an example from the Pacific and Regional Archive for Digital Sources in Endangered Cultures (PARADISEC)"***

17:30 – 17:50	**Ms. Claire McGuire** (Manager, Policy and Advocacy, International Federation of Libraries and Archives (IFLA) and the IFAP Expert of Working Group Information Preservation, France)
17:50 – 18:20	**Panel Discussion**

25 February 2025
THEME: CHALLENGES
Unveiling the Complexities: Navigating Challenges in Language Technologies
(Room II and Poster area: Hall Segur)

09:00-09:30   Session Keynote 1

Moderator Onsite:

Ms. Ailbhe Ní Chasaide	Professor, Trinity College Dublin, Ireland

Moderator Online:

Mr. Martin Benjamin	Technology and Language Expert, African Academy of Languages (ACALAN - Mali) and Kamusi Project International, Switzerland

Rapporteur:

Mr. Ali Mehdi	Senior Director, Heritage Lab, Canada

09:00 – 09:20	**Ms. Lorna Williams** (Prof Emerita/Special Advisor, University of Victoria / First Peoples Cultural Foundation, Canada) *"Wa7 szum'in'stum' ti nqwelutenlhkalha 2025. Technology where are we now?"*
09:20 – 09:30	**QA Session**

09:30-11:00   Session O4: Language Technologies for All: Empowering Communities or Reinforcing Dependence?

Moderators Onsite:

Ms. Fatiha Sadat	Professor, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada
Mr. Daan van Esch	Technical Program Manager, Google, Netherlands

Moderator Online:

Ms. Nomsa Juliet Skosana	Digital Humanities Researcher, South African Centre for Digital Language Resources (SADiLaR), South Africa

Rapporteur:

Mr. Priyankoo Sarmah	Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India

09:30 – 09:40	**Mr. Keoni Mahelona** (Chief Technical Officer, Te Reo Irirangi o Te Hiku o Te Ika, New Zealand) *"Lauleo: Bringing our voices together for the future of 'ōlelo Hawai'i"*
09:40 – 09:50	**Mr. Ian Gilmour** (Ian Gilmour, Managing Director, Euler Digital SEZC, USA) *"Heterogeneous foundations for Low Resource Language Models - why technical debt skews representation in language technology and opportunities for greater representation"*
09:50 – 10:00	**Ms. Evelyn Chibaka Epse Fogwe** (Professor, University of Buea, Cameroon) *"Fostering Language Community Empowerment and Development: The Holistic Approaches – Some Cameroonian and Canadian Cases."*
10:00 – 10:10	**Mr. Marolop Sahat Martua Manalu** (Staff for Indigenous Education and Cultural Affairs, Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago - Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara (AMAN), Indonesia)

	"Indigenous Peoples and Languages of Indonesia: Challenges and Realities in a Diverse Archipelago"
10:10 – 10:20	**Mr. Romain Deceuninck** (Founder, Liv.Corsica, France) *"LIV - Un écosystème IA adapté aux langues et cultures régionales. LIV - A Comprehensive, local, Community adapted AI Ecosystem"*
10:20 – 10:30	**Ms. Eugenia Urrere** (Founder, Indigenius, Argentina) *"Neither empowerment nor dependency"*
10:30 – 11:00	**Panel Discussion**

11:00-11:40 [40 minutes] Coffee Break + Poster Session

Poster Session P4: Language Technology for Language Revitalization

11:40-13:20   Session O5: The Impact of Language Technology: Enhancing or Undermining Human Roles?

Moderators Onsite:

Mr. Trond Trosterud	Professor, UiT The Arctic University of Norway, Norway
Ms. Anne Lambright	Head of Languages, Cultures & Applied Linguistics, Carnegie Mellon University, USA

Moderator Online:

Mr. Luis Chiruzzo	Assistant Professor, Universidad de la República, Uruguay

Rapporteur:

Ms. Ioana Vasilescu	Senior Researcher, Laboratoire Interdisciplinaire des Sciences du Numérique - Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (LISN-CNRS) & University Paris Saclay, France

11:40 – 11:50	**Mr. Steven Bird** (Professor, Charles Darwin University, Australia) *"We don't trust those mobiles!"*
11:50 – 12:00	**Ms. Mona Elswah** (Research Fellow, Center for Democracy & Technology, USA) *"The Role of Human Moderators in Low-Resource Languages: Kiswahili as a Case Study"*
12:00 – 12:10	**Mr. James Muldoon** (Reader in Management, University of Essex, United Kingdom) *"The Hidden Human Labour Powering Artificial Intelligence"*
12:10 – 12:20	**Mr. Emmanuel Lallana** (Professorial Fellow, University of The Philippines, The Philippines) *"AI and Work in a Developing Country"*
12:20 – 12:30	**Ms. Alice Delorme Benites** (Professor, Zurich University of Applied Sciences (ZHAW), Switzerland) *"I should be the one asking the questions! Taking turn and defining roles in AI-interpreted conversations"*
12:30 – 12:40	**Mr. Tahar Bouhafs** (Chief Executive Officer, CSA Research (formerly known as Common Sense Advisory), USA) *"Bridging the Digital Linguistic Divide in the AI Era"*
12:40 – 12:50	**Mr. Brett Frischmann** (Professor, Charles Widger Endowed University, USA) *"Humanity in the 21st Century"*
12:50 – 13:20	**Panel Discussion**

13:20-14:30 [70 minutes] Lunch Break + Poster Session

Poster Session P5: Language-specific Tools

14:30-16:00   Session O6: Multilingual Communication: AI-based Translation vs Lingua Franca?

14:30 – 14:40	**Ms. Juliane House** (Professor, Universität Hamburg, Germany) "*English as a global lingua franca: A threat to multilingual communication and translation?*"
14:40 – 14:50	**Ms. Katharina von der Wense** (Professor, University of Colorado, USA) "*AI-Based Translation of All of the World's Languages: Realistic Goal or Far-Fetched Dream?*"
14:50 – 15:00	**Mr. Janne Pölönen** (Secretary General for Publication Forum, Federation of Finnish Learned Societies - Tieteellisten seurain valtuuskunta (TSV), Finland) "*Reform of research assessment, lingua franca, and AI-based translation*"
15:00 – 15:10	**Mr. Daniel Pimienta** (Head, Observatoire de la diversité linguistique et culturelle dans l'Internet (OBDILCI), Dominican Republic) "*Inventory and comparisons of all methods for the measure of languages online: implications for the Internet's lingua franca*"
15:10 – 15:20	**Ms. Aimee Ansari** (Chief Executive, CLEAR Global, USA) "*Reliance on Lingua Franca: kulaktan kulağa, Stille Post, tichá pošta, rikkinäinen puhelin, χαλασμένο τηλέφωνο, téléphone sans fil in humanitarian crises*"
15:20 – 15:30	**Mr. Ondrej Bojar** (Associate Professor, Charles University, Czech Republic) "*Machines against Lingua Franca*"
15:30 – 16:00	**Panel Discussion**

16:00-16:40 [40 minutes] Coffee Break + Poster Session

Poster Session P6: Language Technologies and the People

16:40-18:20 Session O7: How to Properly Evaluate Language Technologies: Addressing Challenges in Quality, Reliability, Usability, and Ethical Frameworks

16:40 – 16:50	**Mr. Prado Daniel Héctor** (Consultant International, Argentina) "*Platform of digital language resources for the indigenous languages of Latin America: Its creation and the challenges for indigenous languages in the development of language tools*"
16:50 – 17:00	**Ms. Sunayana Sitaram** (Principal Researcher, Microsoft Research India, India) "*Towards Reliable and Effective Multilingual Evaluation for all Languages of the World*"

17:00 – 17:10	**Ms. Mandana Seyfeddinipur** (Director, Endangered Languages Documentation Programme, Germany) ***"LT 4 whom?"***
17:10 – 17:20	**Mr. Damián Blasi** (Research Professor, Catalan Institute for Advanced Study, Spain) "*Language technologies across the world's languages: fairness, incentives, and policy*"
17:20 – 17:30	**Ms. Gloria M.T Emezue** (Professor, Alex Ekwueme Federal University Ndufu Alike Ikwo, Ebonyi State & Lanfrica, Nigeria) "*Data Farming and the QRUE Frameworks: The NaijaVoices Experience*"
17:30 – 17:40	**Mr. Te Taka Keegan** (Associate Professor, University of Waikato, New Zealand) "*Māori Algorithmic Sovereignty: Idea, Principles, and Use*"
17:40 – 17:50	**Ms. Natasha MacDonald** (Vice President, Heritage Lab, Canada) / **Mr. Ali Mehdi** (Senior Director, Heritage Lab, Canada) "*Ai!: Building Inclusive Pathways to Indigenous Language Learning and Knowledge Access*"
17:50 – 18:20	**Panel Discussion**

26 February 2025
THEME: SOLUTIONS
Envisioning Future Solutions: Shaping Language Technology Tomorrow
(Room II)

09:00-09:30   Session Keynote 2

Moderators Onsite:

Ms. Natasha MacDonald	Vice President, Heritage Lab, Canada

Moderator Online:

Mr. Alp Öktem	Language Technology Expert, Col•lectivaT / CLEAR Global, Spain

Rapporteur:

Mr. Pierpaolo Di Carlo	Research Fellow, University at Buffalo, USA

09:00 – 09:20	**Ms. Ludmilla Golovine** (President and Chief Executive Officer, MasterWord Services Inc., USA) "*A Shared Future in Language Technology*"
09:20 – 09:30	**QA Session**

09:30-11:00   Session O8: Co-Creating the Future of Language Technology: Government-Industry-Academia-Language Communities Collaboration Scheme

Moderators Onsite:

Mr. Nicoletta Calzolari	Research associate, Istituto di Linguistica Computazionale, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy
Mr. Mark Durdin	Keyman Product Owner, SIL Global, Cambodia

Moderator Online:

Ms. Alejandrina Cristia	Director of Research, Ecole normale supérieure, Université Paris Sciences et Lettres (PSL University), École des hautes études en sciences sociales (EHESS), Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), France

Rapporteur:

Mr. Jón Guðnason	Professor, Reykjavik University, Iceland

09:30 – 09:40	**Ms. Misako Ito** (Regional Adviser for Communication and Information in Africa, UNESCO Regional Office in Nairobi, Kenya) "*AKILI UNDE - An English-Kiswahili AI Dictionary for a Multilingual Cyberspace*"

09:40 – 09:50	**Mr. Baldomero Cuma** (Head of the Board of Advisors, The Mayan Languages Preservation Project, Guatemala) + **Mr. Winston Scott** (Director, Mayan Languages Preservation Project, USA) "*Mayan Language Preservation and Digitization: A Community Approach for Our Future. Li Kolok Ix ut Xyoob'ankil Ak' Tzolom reheb' Aatinob'aal Mayab': Jun K'anjel sa' Komonil re Xk'a'uxlankil li Qayu'am Chi Ub'ej.*"
09:50 – 10:00	**Mr. Eddie Avila** (Rising Voices Director, Global Voices, Bolivia) "*Indigenous-Led Language Tech and Self-Determination*"
10:00 – 10:10	**Mr. Sjur Nørstebø Moshagen** (Chief Engineer, Universitetet i Tromsø (UiT) - The Arctic University of Norway, Norway) *"Open Language — how to make technology speak all languages"*
10:10 – 10:20	**Mr. Valts Ernštreits** (Director / Representative of Latvia / Co-chair of AdHoc group IV on Digital Equality and Domains, University of Latvia Livonian Institute / Global Task Force Member, International Decade of Indigenous Languages (2022–2032), Latvia) "*Digital Future of Indigenous Languages – a ground to prosper or new battlefield?*"
10:20 – 10:30	**Ms. Lining Wang** (Executive deputy director, Center for the Protection and Research of Language Resources of China at Beijing Language and Culture University, China) "*Language Resources Protection in the Digital Intelligence Era*"
10:30 – 11:00	**Panel Discussion**

11:00-11:30 [30 minutes] Coffee Break

11:30 - 13:00   Session O9: "Shaping the Future: Policies for Human-AI Coexistence"

Moderators Onsite:

Mr. Daniel Wilson	CEO, XRI Global, USA
Ms. Katrine Loen Thomsen	Deputy Managing Director, Arctic World Archive / Piql, Norway

Moderator Online:

Mr. Jose F Quesada	Associate Professor, University of Seville & Lekta Language Engineering, Spain

Rapporteur:

Mr. Clement Ong	Assistant Professor, De La Salle University, The Philippines

11:30 – 11:40	**Ms. Heiura Itae-Tetaa** (Chief Executive Officer/Founder, E-Reo, French Polynesia – Tahiti) "*From extinction to inclusion: giving millions of people back their language* - *De l'extinction à l'inclusion : redonner leur langue à des millions de personnes*"
11:40 – 11:50	**Mr. Naftali Indongo** (Researcher under the UNESCO Chair Indigenous Knowledge and Lecturer at Namibia University of Science and Technology, Namibia University of Science and Technology, Namibia) "*Leveraging Language Technologies to Promote Resilience: A Community-Based Participatory Approach to Reduce School Dropout Among Namibian San Youth*"
11:50 – 12:00	**Ms. Doaa Abu Elyones** (Programme Specialist, Section for Bioethics and the Ethics of Science and Technology, Division for Research, Ethics and Inclusion, UNESCO, France) "*Linguistic Diversity through the Lenses of the UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of AI*"
12:00 – 12:10	**Ms. Michelle Brown** (Co-Investigator, Abundant Intelligences Professor, USA) "*Indigenous AI: Abundant Intelligences and IndigiGenius*"
12:10 – 12:20	**Ms. Danielle Boyer** (Founder, the STEAM Connection, USA) "*Building Language Revitalization Robotics Rooted in Ethical AI*"
12:20 – 12:30	**Ms. Sofiya Zahova** (Director, Vigdís International Centre for Multilingualism, Iceland) + **Mr. Óttar Kolbeinsson Proppé** (Project Manager, Centre for Language Technology – Almannarómur, Iceland) "*The Icelandic Approach to Language Technology*"
12:30 – 13:00	**Panel Discussion**

13:00 - 13:15 Closing Session

13:00 - 13:05	**Master of Ceremony: Mr. Guilherme Canela de Souza Godoi** (Director of Division for Digital Inclusion and Policies and Digital Transformation and Secretary of the Information for All Programme (IFAP)8, UNESCO)
13:05 - 13:10	**Ms. Diana Riba I Giner** (Coordinator and Vice-Chair - Committee on Culture and Education (CULT), European Parliament)
13:10 - 13:15	**LT4All General Chairs:** ● **Mr. Jaco Du Toit** (Chief of the Section for Universal Access to Information and Digital Inclusion, Division for Digital Inclusion and Policies and Digital Transformation, and Secretariat of the Information for All Programme, UNESCO). ● **Ms. Sakriani Sakti** (Professor and Head of the Human-AI Interaction Research Laboratory at Nara Institute of Science and Technology Japan, Member of ELRA Language Resources Association (ELRA) Board, and Chair of International Speech Communication Association (ISCA)/ELRA Special Interest Group of Under-resourced Languages (SIGUL))