

GLOBAL ENCOUNTERS: DIALOGUES
ACROSS CULTURES

Emerging Identities in a Globalised World

Online conference
22nd and 23rd January 2026

Organisers

Language and Communication Research Group, Faculty of Humanities
and Social Sciences, University of Miskolc, Hungary

Applied Language and Culture Studies Research Lab, Faculty of Letters
and Humanities, Chouaib Doukkali University, Morocco

Centre for English Language Studies, Sunway University, Malaysia

Department of English and American Studies, Faculty of Modern
Languages, St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo,
Bulgaria

Department of Philology, Ferenc Rakoczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian
University, Ukraine



SUNWAY
UNIVERSITY



Plenary speakers



Dr. Irina Golubeva is Professor and Interim Chair of the Department of Modern Languages, Linguistics and Intercultural Communication at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (USA). Her main research interests include the internationalization of higher education and the development of multilingual awareness, empathy, and intercultural citizenship. She teaches and publishes in four languages: English, Hungarian, Russian, and Spanish. She is co-editor of *From Principles to Practice in Education for Intercultural Citizenship* and *Intercultural Learning in Language Education and Beyond: Evolving Concepts, Perspectives and Practices*, and co-author of *Intercultural Competence for College and University Students: A Global Guide for Employability and Social Change*. She also co-hosts the acclaimed webinar series, *Decentering Intercultural Research and Practice*, which brings together international scholars and practitioners to critically reimagine the field. She is deeply committed to non-profit work and served for seven years as Vice-President of the European Association of Teachers. In 2020, she received the title of “UMBC Innovation Fellow” for her contribution to fostering intercultural dialogue on campus and enhancing students’ engagement in Internationalization at Home. Most recently, she was elected a Fellow of the International Academy for Intercultural Research.

This plenary examines how universities can move beyond surface-level diversity initiatives to cultivate students' sense of belonging through intercultural citizenship education. Drawing on campus-climate research and evidence from a Minority-Serving Institution, Dr. Golubeva illustrates how intercultural citizenship frameworks can be intentionally integrated to improve campus climate, enrich intergroup relations, and foster students’ democratic and intercultural competencies in an increasingly polarized and globalized world.



Dr Tamas Kiss works as an Associate Professor at Sunway University, Centre for English Language Studies. He has been involved with language teacher education programmes in Europe, the Middle East, South Asia, Latin America and South East Asia. He delivered one-off talks and directed longer, intensive workshops in more than 20 countries by invitation of universities, language teacher organizations, cultural institutions, or international publishing houses. His main research interests include language pedagogy, language teacher education, creativity, intercultural communication, the link between complex dynamic systems and education, and the role of culture in language teaching materials. One of his latest projects has been on creativity in language teaching which resulted in a co-authored book: Maley, A. & Kiss, T. (2018). *Creativity and English Language Teaching: From inspiration to implementation*. London: Palgrave Macmillan. His research expertise lies primarily in the areas of English Language Teaching and Teacher Education, with a specific focus on the following three areas: 1) novice language teacher experiences 2) teacher education as a complex dynamic system, 3) (inter)cultural content in EL textbooks, and 4) creativity in language teaching. His research generally follows an interdisciplinary approach.

This talk explores how Hungarian and Malaysian university students engaged in intercultural dialogue through an online collaborative project designed to foster cultural awareness and communication skills. Working in small groups, students created short videos (3–4 minutes) about their own culture, which were then shared with peers abroad. While watching these videos, participants completed a Directed Viewing and Thinking Activity (DVTA), reflecting on prior knowledge, assumptions, and curiosities. The questions they formulated to learn more about the other culture provided data for research and analysis. In this project, Byram’s (1997) model of intercultural communicative competence provided the conceptual framework, while Causadias’ (2020) p-model (*peoples, places, and practices*) guided the coding of cultural dimensions. Results show that most questions focused on *practices*, with Malaysians more curious about *places* and Hungarians about *people*. The analysis also suggests that Causadias’ model is incomplete, as it omits *products* as a significant cultural dimension. Furthermore, the questions students asked tended to remain at a knowledge-seeking level rather than demonstrating critical or reflective engagement. This points to students’ difficulties in formulating higher-order questions that would strengthen intercultural competence as outlined by Byram. The study shows that there is a need for educators to illustrate and model questioning techniques that encourage deeper engagement and allow time for exploring ideas and cultural meaning-making in their classrooms. It also suggests that in monocultural and multicultural contexts, a different approach to developing intercultural competence might be justified.

Programme

22 ND JANUARY 2026 (THURSDAY)		
9.00 am- 9.15 am ¹	<p style="text-align: center;">WELCOME ADDRESS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dr. Renáta Kriston, Vice Dean of International and Academic Affairs, Dr. Ágnes Magnuczne Godó, Conference Coordinator Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Miskolc https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85464289266?pwd=SfHbCaPuF0de0Hrd2znbp0nzjwX498.1</p>	
SESSIONS		
	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 1 Literature and Film</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Attila DÓSA https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85464289266?pwd=SfHbCaPuF0de0Hrd2znbp0nzjwX498.1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 2 Emerging Identities in the Digital Space</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Attila TAKÁCS https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81769404473?pwd=ExnvDjv5NHkjAJmZCnxR04at1gLpdk.1</p>
9.20 am- 9.40 am	<p style="text-align: center;">Fatima Zahra EL ARBAOUI Sultan Moulay Sliman University, Morocco <i>Rewriting Identity: Gender and Voice in Literary Translation</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Fatima-Ezzahra SAIDI Ibn Tofail University, Morocco <i>Digital South-South Encounters: Reframing Moroccan Identity through Sub-Saharan Migrant Narratives</i></p>
9.40 am- 10.00 am	<p style="text-align: center;">Abdelghani MOUSSAOUI Chouaib Doukkali University, Morocco <i>On Urban Space and Female Mobility in Contemporary Moroccan Cinema</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Merieme ACHEMLAL Mohamed The First University, Morocco <i>Negotiating and Reshaping Moroccan Religious Identity in the Digital Public Sphere</i></p>
10.00 am- 10.20 am	<p style="text-align: center;">Najib EL MAHRAOUI Chouaib Doukkali University, Morocco <i>How do Translators Deal with Literary Deviations? A Case Study: Arabic Translation of the Waste Land</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Boryana BRATANOVA St Cyril and St Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria <i>Curating the Self Online: Digital Travel Identities in a Globalized World</i></p>
10.20 am- 10.40 am		<p style="text-align: center;">Edgar YAU Sunway University, Malaysia <i>United in Rice: The Emergence of a Global Non-White Identity in YouTube Comments</i></p>
10.40 am- 11.00 am	BREAK	
	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 3 Translation and Communication</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Anikó MÁTYÁS https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85464289266?pwd=SfHbCaPuF0de0Hrd2znbp0nzjwX498.1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Session 4 Legal and Employment Contexts as Identity-Shaping Factors</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chair: Veronika LAJOS https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81769404473?pwd=ExnvDjv5NHkjAJmZCnxR04at1gLpdk.1</p>
11.00 am- 11.20 am	<p style="text-align: center;">Doha BALADI - Badr GUENNOUN Ibn Tofail University, Morocco <i>The Language-Culture Nexus in a Globalised World: Meaning, Identity, and Communication Across Contexts</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Áron RIMÁN University of Miskolc, Hungary <i>Factors Hindering and Facilitating the Successful Integration of Immigrants</i></p>

¹ The timeslots are given in CET (Central European Time, cf. <https://time.is/CET>). Please make sure that you check your local time.

11.20 am- 11.40 am	Kaoutar CHAHBANE Abdelmalek Essaâdi University, Morocco <i>Digital Storytelling for Inclusive Interpreter Training in Globalized Higher Education</i>	Gábor MÉLYPATAKI - Edit KRISTON University of Miskolc, Hungary <i>Taking Family Ties into Account in the Social Integration of Third-Country Workers in Hungary – Legal Context</i>
11.40 am- 12.00 pm	Zineb EL ABBOUBI - Adil Youssef SAYEH Chouaib Doukkali University, Morocco <i>Love, Language, and Laughter: Gendered Nuances of Moroccan Emotional Expression</i>	Marzena SZABŁOWSKA-JUCKIEWICZ - Renata GOŁDYN-BADOWIEC Nicolaus Copernicus University, Poland <i>Cultural and Linguistic Diversity in the Workplace – Opportunities and Threats</i>
12.00 pm- 12.20 pm	Hafssa LAABDI - Karima BOUZIANE - Younes AICH Chouaib Doukkali University, Morocco <i>Cultural Mediation in AI Translation of Culture-Specific Items: Domestication or Foreignization? (Poster Presentation)</i>	Chaimaa LAHNECH - Daouia LAABOUDI - Abdellah IDHSSAINE Chouaib Doukkali University, Morocco <i>Language Policy and Media: Global Insights from a Bibliometric and a Systematic Literature Review</i>
	Bajram DEMOLLARI St Cyril and St Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria Ukshin Hoti University, Kosovo <i>Exploring Language Attitude towards English Proficiency as a Factor of Employability in Kosovo’s Multilingual Context (Poster presentation)</i>	
12.25 pm- 1.05 pm	PLENARY LECTURE Dr. Irina GOLUBEVA Department of Modern Languages, Linguistics, and Intercultural Communication, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, USA <i>From Diversity to Belonging: Intercultural Citizenship for Inclusive Higher Education</i> https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85464289266?pwd=SfHbCaPuF0de0Hrd2znbp0nzjwX498.1	
23RD JANUARY 2026 (FRIDAY)		
9.00 am- 9.40 am	PLENARY LECTURE Dr. Tamás KISS Centre for English Language Studies, Sunway University, Malaysia <i>Learner-Generated Questions for Intercultural Learning</i> https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85464289266?pwd=SfHbCaPuF0de0Hrd2znbp0nzjwX498.1	
SESSIONS		
	Session 5 Multilingualism and Cross-Cultural Awareness Chair: Ágnes MAGNUCZNÉ GODÓ https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85464289266?pwd=SfHbCaPuF0de0Hrd2znbp0nzjwX498.1	Session 6 Professional Identities Chair: Viktória LÁNG https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81769404473?pwd=ExnvDjv5NHkjAJmZCnxR04at1gLpdk.1
9.40 am- 10.00 am	Mariem Ait LAHCEN OUALI Chouaib Doukkali University, Morocco <i>Emerging Identities Through Language: Cultural Instruction in Moroccan EFL Contexts</i>	Sylvia VELIKOVA St Cyril and St Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria <i>Teacher Research as a Mediating Space for Professional Identity Development in EAL Contexts</i>

10.00 am- 10.20 am	Anikó MÁTYÁS University of Miskolc, Hungary <i>The Washback of International High-Stakes Language Exams on Learners' Motivation and Identity</i>	Sara AZZOUZI - Salma HABIBALLAH - Jihane TAMIMI USMBA, Ecole National Supérieure, Morocco <i>Between National Duty and Global Vision: Hybrid Professional Identities of University Teachers in Internationalising Higher Education Contexts in Morocco and France</i>
10.20 am- 10.40 am	Iлона LECHNER - Natalia BANIAS - Béla BÁRÁNY - Iлона HUSZTI Ferenc Rákóczi II Transcarpathian Hungarian University, Ukraine <i>The Cognitive Switch: A Study of Language Mixing, Mental Translation, and Multilingual Self-Expression</i>	Safae BEN FRAIHA - Taoufik JAAFARI Hassan II University, Morocco <i>Media, Globalization, And Hybrid Identity Formation: A Bottom-Up Approach to Moroccan Youth's Narratives</i>
10.40 am- 11.00 am	Brahim BENMOH Mohammed V University, Morocco <i>Becoming a Cosmopolitan: Borders Crossings and Migrant Identity in Postcolonial Fiction</i>	Najia HICHMINE - Tarik BOUGUERBA - Nabil MORCHID Ibn Tofail University, Morocco <i>Gender Discourse in the Armed Forces (2015-2025)</i>
11.00 am- 11.20 am	BREAK	
	Session 7 Approaches to Developing Intercultural Understanding Chair: Anikó MÁTYÁS https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85464289266?pwd=SfHbCaPuF0de0Hrd2znbp0nzjwX498.1	Session 8 Discourse Identities Chair: Ágnes MAGNUCZNÉ GODÓ https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81769404473?pwd=ExnvDjv5NHkjAJmZCnxR04at1gLpdK.1
11.20 am- 11.40 am	Christine ARTHUR Sunway University, Malaysia <i>Beyond the Classroom: Fostering Global Awareness Through Cross-Cultural Communication</i>	Chahra BELOUFA North Private College of Nursing, Saudi Arabia <i>The Shameful Writer: Emerging Identities of Remorse, Concealment, and AI-Assisted Authorship in a Globalised World</i>
11.40 am- 12.00 pm	Mina MOUDDEN Ibnou Zohr University, Morocco <i>Creative Thinking Skills: The Perceptions, Practices, and Challenges of Moroccan English First Language Teachers</i>	Tünde BAJZÁT University of Miskolc, Hungary <i>An Examination of Identity Transformation in the Essays of International Students Studying in Hungary</i>
12.00 pm- 12.20 pm	Ruth Karin LÉVAI University of Miskolc, Hungary <i>Creating Games as a Window to Understanding Cultural Theories in Practice</i>	Hicham DAHMANI Sidi Mohamed Ben Abdellah University, Morocco <i>Patriotic Identity in Transition: Deconstructing Patriotic Discourse in Moroccan Educational Contexts</i>
12.20 pm- 12.40 pm	Mariam Ait LAHCEN OUALI Chouaib Doukkali University, Morocco <i>The Role of Cultural Content in Arabic as a Foreign Language Programs</i>	Ágnes MAGNUCZNÉ GODÓ – Kitti OSZLOVICS University of Miskolc, Hungary <i>Constructing Authorial Identity in L2 Academic Writing: Three Case Studies</i>
12.40 pm- 12.50 pm	Khadija AHUILAT Ibnou Zohr University, Morocco <i>Codeswitching as a Pedagogical Resource for Identity Construction in Reaction to Hegemonic Monolingual Policies in Moroccan EFL Public High Schools (Poster presentation)</i>	
1.00 pm- 1.15 pm	CLOSING	
	https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85464289266?pwd=SfHbCaPuF0de0Hrd2znbp0nzjwX498.1	