

# The Historical Sociolinguistics Network (HiSoN)

HiSoN is the leading international platform for scholars in the domain of historical sociolinguistics. It was founded during a conference at the University of Bristol in 2005, by Stephan Elspaß (Universität Salzburg), Nils Langer (Europa-Universität Flensburg), Joachim Scharloth (Waseda University Tokio) and Wim Vandenbussche (Vrije Universiteit Brussel).

HiSoN deliberately functions as a loose organisation without a formal membership structure and is open to anyone with an interest in the social history of language at large.

HiSoN regularly organises dedicated conferences and workshops, as well as an annual summer school alternating between a university campus in mainland Europe and the Metochi study centre on the island of Lesbos. It further supports the annual Historical Sociolinguistics Young Researchers Forum, an event for early career researchers combining workshops, master classes and keynote lectures. The network also was the driving force behind the creation of a full research 'infrastructure' for the field, including two book series (Historical Sociolinguistics, Peter Lang & Advances in Historical Sociolinguistics, John Benjamins) and the internationally acclaimed Journal of Historical Sociolinguistics (De Gruyter).

The network maintains an electronic mailing list as well as a Facebook page, both with currently some 700 subscribers. Along with the HiSoN webpage (<https://hison.sbg.ac.at>, hosted at the University of Salzburg), these 'electronic homes' serve as a platform for interaction, information and discussion.

HiSoN's standing committee regroups 3 of founding members:

Stephan Elspaß (Stephan.Elspass@sbg.ac.at)

Nils Langer (Nils.Langer@uni-flensburg.de)

Wim Vandenbussche (Wim.Vandenbussche@vub.be).

Wim Vandenbussche serves as delegate in the CIPL General Assembly, with Belgian affiliation.

Upcoming HiSoN activities include:

-a conference on "Intra-Writer Variation in Historical Sociolinguistics" from 1-3 April 2020 at the Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg.

<https://sprachwissenschaft.fau.de/hison2020/>

-the Historical Sociolinguistics Young Researchers Forum (HSYRF-2020) from 6-7 March 2020 at the Vrije Universiteit Brussel.

-the HiSoN Summer School from 12-19 July 2020 on the island of Amrum (Germany), hosted by the Europa-Universität Flensburg.