

21st International Congress of Linguists  
Poznan, Poland. 08-14 September 2024

## **REPORT OF ATTENDANCE**

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The 21st International Congress of Linguists took place in Poznan, Poland, on the second week of September 2024. Under the organization of the Permanent Committee of Linguists (CIPL) and the host institution Adam Mickiewicz University, over 700 participants met at the Poznan Congress Centre, to attend one of the most prestigious scientific events in the field of Linguistics, focused on “Languages, Communities & Technologies”. The event consisted of 12 plenaries and more than 600 presentations and posters, divided into 18 thematic sessions, 12 focus streams and 18 workshop sessions.

The Congress stands out for its various academic incentives: three CIPL Awards ceremonies take place during the event, one in the field of language endangerment, one for best early career presentation (recent PhD holders) and one for best poster. Also, the Committee awards travel grants to selected PhD students who have had their paper accepted for the Congress. Being awarded one of the CIPL travel grants for PhD students was essential to make my participation at ICL24 possible.

### **Organization and Facilities**

ICL24 was the first congress I attended abroad. It was impressively well organized, from all the information available on the website to the catering during the event. With the official mobile app, I didn't have any problems arriving at the Poznan Congress Centre. It also could not have made it easier to plan my daily timetable and find details of each session and speaker.

It made a big difference to have a representative of the Office of Tourism available all days of the event. I was given good recommendations on where to eat and what to visit in my free time. They also gave me support with some problems I had with my accommodation in Poznan.

### **Plenaries**

Three of the plenaries were particularly important to guide me towards a perspective of Linguistics I was not aware of until then. The speeches of Prof. Felix Ameka (about

Decolonization of Linguistics), Prof. Frederick Newmeyer (about the complexity of languages) and Prof. Joseph LoBianco (about language policy and planning). I have now found a path to approach the subject of non-standard varieties in my own research.

### **Sessions**

Most of the sessions I attended belonged to Sessions 12 (Language Policy, Multilingualism, Education Development, and Migration), 17 (General Session 1), and 18 (General Session 2), and Focus Session 1 (Decolonizing approaches to language diversity and reclamation). I highlight the sessions given by Bruno Costa (S12-An intercultural communicative strategy for teaching Portuguese to migrant learners in Portugal), Professor Sally Delgado (FS01-Unpicking colonial perspectives from Puerto Rican English) and Professor Michal Paradowski (FS08-Moral Judgements and Social Norms vary across L1 and L2, but not L2 and L3). I did not expect to listen and meet so many scholars who, although working with languages from completely different families, share the same main scientific objectives as me.

My presentation, entitled “Brazilian immigrants in the Portuguese education system: National varieties and inclusion strategies” was held on Monday at 11:30 (S12, block 4, room 1F), and presented an overview of my PhD research, as well as some partial results. Having already identified most of the linguistic variables to answer my main research questions, extralinguistic factors, namely improving tolerance, acceptance, and integration in the community remains a challenge. I was very pleased to have received so many questions and comments at the end of my presentation, including the one made by session convenor Prof. Helder De Schutter, which opened the discussion to fellow scholars about language prejudice in general. It was a very enriching moment for my research and for my career.

### **Social events**

On the first day of ICL, a welcome reception *soirée* was held at Collegium Maius, a very beautiful venue and a unique opportunity to visit it. This event was special, as I met other researchers who made me company in the following days of the Congress.

I also highlight the evening walking tour that took place on the fourth day of the event, the tour guide was very knowledgeable and shared interesting small facts and stories for us linguists.

### **General appreciation**

Attending ICL was very important for my career, not only for its reputation as a scientific event, but mainly for everything I learned – new methods for researching Linguistics, and that

many scholars around the world research with similar objectives as mine's, despite living in different contexts and focusing on different languages.

Once again, I would like to thank CIPL and the organizing committee of ICL for the travel grant. I hope this initiative continues to exist in future editions of the Congress, so young researchers can take back to their universities different approaches and new solutions to the studies of Linguistics.