

CIPL Travel Grant Spring/Summer 2025

Final report of participation

I am pleased to submit this report on my participation in the 27th International Conference on Historical Linguistics (ICHL), held in Santiago de Chile from August 18th to 22nd, 2025. I was able to attend this event thanks to the travel grant awarded by CIPL.

ICHL is one of the most prestigious conferences in the field of historical linguistics. I had previously attended the 23rd edition in San Antonio, Texas (2017), but this year's conference was particularly meaningful, as it marked the first time the event was hosted in South America. Moreover, I presented my PhD thesis prospectus, which definitely made the experience even more special, both personally and professionally.

ICHL brings together leading experts, early-career researchers, and graduate students from around the world, and offers an enriching and vibrant environment for exchanging ideas and fostering academic connections. Presenting, attending sessions, and engaging in discussions with colleagues at various stages of their careers was an invaluable opportunity.

My talk, titled "Grammaticalization and Cyclical Change: The Case of Spanish Aspectual SE" / "Gramaticalización y cambio cíclico: el caso del SE aspectual", was based on my doctoral research, which explores the diachronic development of the so-called aspectual SE in Spanish, a topic that remains rather underexplored within formal linguistic frameworks. I proposed a general diachrony of the phenomenon, focusing on its development across different verb types and offering a generative explanation for the observed changes in relation to other changes. Presenting this work to an international audience was both challenging and rewarding. I received valuable feedback, such as a suggestion to explore the role of (non-)delimited objects in the historical process, as well as recommendations of recent literature.

In addition to delivering my presentation, I attended several insightful sessions. I would especially like to highlight the plenary talks by Concepción Company Company, Gašper Beguš, and Johannes Kabatek. Furthermore, the workshops organized by María Mare ("Theorizing Word-Class Change in the History of Languages") and by Estefanía Baranger and Martín Califa ("Marcación argumental y fenómenos de cambio de valencia en lenguas indígenas americanas") featured thought-provoking contributions.

Beyond the sessions, I had the chance to connect with colleagues from various universities and exchange ideas and experiences with fellow PhD students. The welcoming atmosphere created by the organizing committee led by Verónica Orqueda was deeply appreciated and contributed to the overall success of the event. It was also a pleasure to visit the campuses of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile (Campus San Joaquín) and Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez (Campus Presidente Errázuriz), which hosted the conference.

In summary, my participation in ICHL 27 was a highly rewarding experience. Although I had attended ICHL in the past, this edition offered a unique setting and a fresh set of opportunities for learning and engagement. I am sincerely grateful to CIPL for the financial support that made my participation possible. I would also like to thank my supervisors, Daniel Romero and Elly van Gelderen, for their guidance and support throughout the preparation of my presentation. I am enclosing my statement of participation and look forward to contributing to future editions of ICHL.

Sincerely,

José M. Oliver