



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Language Policy, Bilingualism and Bilingual Education: Shaping the Future

<https://blogs.uned.es/fundacionuned/biuned-2026/>

12-13 November 2026

CALL FOR PAPERS

Since 2018, the UNED Language and Society Research Group has organised a series of biennial international conferences that have become a consolidated forum for scholarly debate on bilingualism and bilingual education. Building on previous editions that explored bilingualism and interculturality (2018), the relationship between bilingualism and migration (2020), the interplay between bilingualism, bilingual education, and their social contexts (2022), and how bilingualism and bilingual education intersect with political tensions and conflict (2024), BiUNED 2026 focuses on the role of past, present, and future language policies in shaping bilingualism and bilingual education worldwide.

In contemporary societies, bilingualism and multilingualism are no longer marginal phenomena. Global mobility, internationalised labour markets, digital communication, and rapid technological development, particularly artificial intelligence (AI) and data-driven technologies, are profoundly transforming how languages are learned, used, governed, and valued. These transformations affect not only educational practices but also research methodologies, assessment models, and language policy design. At the same time, language policies continue to generate tensions linked to ideology, identity, equity, linguistic rights, and access to education, which remain central concerns in European and international policy agendas.

Aligned with key priorities of the European Union, Horizon Europe, the European Education Area, and UNESCO, BiUNED 2026 aims to provide an international platform for critical, interdisciplinary, and forward-looking research on the intersections between language policy, bilingualism, and bilingual education across time, with particular attention to the impact of digital innovation and artificial intelligence on multilingual societies, educational systems, and governance frameworks.

Conference Themes (non-exhaustive)

- Language policy and language planning (past, present, and future)
- Bilingualism, multilingualism, and language ideologies
- Linguistic rights, equity, inclusion, and social justice
- Co-official languages and language governance
- Bilingual education policies and models (CLIL, EMI, immersion, translanguaging)
- Bilingualism, migration, and demographic change
- Heritage languages and family bilingualism
- English as a lingua franca and global multilingualism
- Interculturality, identity, and gender perspectives
- Sociolinguistics of language learning
- Artificial intelligence and digital innovation in language policy and bilingual education
- AI-supported teaching, learning, assessment, and research in multilingual contexts
- Ethical, critical, and sustainable approaches to AI in language education
- Digital equity, accessibility, and inclusion in bilingual and multilingual settings

Types of Contributions

Empirical studies, theoretical and conceptual papers, policy analyses, design-based research, innovation reports, and doctoral research are welcome.

Why BiUNED 2026?

- A strong international and interdisciplinary focus
- Dialogue between research, policy, and educational practice
- Explicit alignment with European and international policy agendas
- Integrated perspectives on AI, digital innovation, and sustainability
- Opportunities for publication in a peer-reviewed special issue

Keynote speakers

Prof. Elizabeth Lanza (Professor Emerita of Linguistics, University of Oslo)

Prof. Michele Gazzola (Senior Lecturer, Ulster University)

1. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS

It is worth noting that the conference will be **held in person, in Madrid**. Presentations will last 20 minutes, followed by 10 minutes for discussion.

Participation is open to all researchers interested in the conference theme. Proposals for papers in **English or Spanish** are welcome.

Your proposal should include:

- A title (max. 15 words)

- Key words (max. 5 words)
- An abstract (300-400 words, not including references), followed by 5-10 references.
- A short biography (max. 200 words)

Authors must have a *Sciencesconf* account to submit their abstracts. If you do not already have one, please [create an account](#) and visit our website for step-by-step instructions on the submission process.

The deadline for the submission of proposals is **15 June 2026**.

2. NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE

A written acceptance or refusal of proposals will be sent by e-mail no later than **6 July 2026**.

3. REGISTRATION

Once a proposal has been accepted, participants should proceed to register for the conference and pay the conference fees. The conference fees are as follows:

Oral presenters:

Early-bird registration (until 15 September): €150

Late registration (from 16 September): €190

Attendees:

Early-bird registration (until 15 September): €50

Late registration (from 16 September): €80

Reduced fee:

Doctoral students and oral presenters based in developing countries (Africa, Asia and Latin America) may apply for a 50 per cent **fee waiver** by getting in touch with the Organising Committee after their proposal has been accepted.

Certificates will be provided to enable oral presenters and attendees to evidence their participation in the conference.

Registration fees include access to coffee breaks, lunch and wine reception.

(In case of co-authorship, any author who attends the conference and/or requires a certificate has to pay the registration fee).

4. PUBLICATION

Full conference papers may be published in a special issue of Spanish journal *Studies in Applied English Linguistics / Estudios de Lingüística Inglesa Aplicada* (ELIA) (<http://revistas.uned.es/index.php/ELIA/index>) after a rigorous peer-review process. Oral presenters are therefore encouraged to submit their manuscripts by February 1st 2026.

5. CONTACT AND FURTHER INFORMATION

You can find more information relating to the conference on our website:

<https://blogs.uned.es/fundacionuned/biuned-2026/>

You may also reach out to the Organizing Committee by email or ordinary mail at the following addresses:

lenguaysociedad@flog.uned.es

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