



HELLENIC REPUBLIC

National and Kapodistrian
University of Athens

EST. 1837

Centre of Excellence for Multilingualism and Language Policy

CEM

School of Philosophy
University Campus Zographou 157
84 Athens, Greece

<https://cem.uoa.gr/>

About us

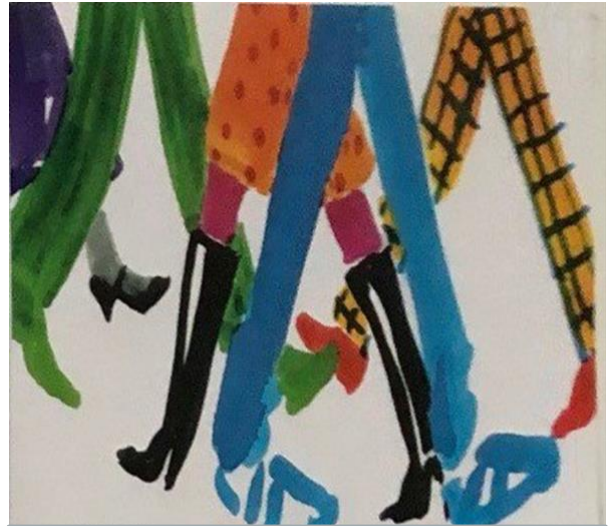
The Centre of Excellence for Multilingualism and Language Policy (henceforth CEM) is one of the 15 Centres of Excellence of the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA). The institutional home of the CEM is the School of Philosophy, which consists of 14 departments, offering undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral studies in the Humanities.

The School of Philosophy has been a home to groups of scholars from language and linguistics departments whose common research interests have led them to collaborate with one other and academics from other universities in Greece and beyond for many years. They have collaborated in projects having to do with the study of languages and discourse in society, across linguistic borders; they have conducted interdepartmental MA degree programmes in Translation Studies and Bi/multilingual Lexicography, in Language Education and Language Teacher-Training; together they have produced multilingual tools and curricular policies. Last, but not least, they have served on expert committees providing policy makers with recommendations regarding languages in schools and other institutions. The idea for this centre was born out of these collaborations, seeking to formalise them institutionally, to enrich them and extend them, in view of the social challenges Greece and other EU countries are facing as they are in serious need of evidence and research-based policies.

Inclusive research

The CEM is:

- a research centre concerned with languages, language learning, teaching and assessment, language policies in society, and in/for all levels of education
- a hub for information about Greek and other languages, multilingualism, plurilingual practices, language education policies and practices in Greece and Cyprus, as well as languages and language education policies in Europe
- an umbrella organisation for multilingualism related projects and academic research units of the NKUA and of other Greek and European universities.
- involved in conducting its own research, in promoting and sponsoring ongoing projects of other academic units and organisations, serving in an advisory or a consulting capacity.



**Πολυγλωσσία - centre
d'excellence-kompetenzzentrum
für multilingualismus - linguistique
- und sprach politik - centro de
excelencia para - multi γλωσσική
πολιτική - Çokdillilik y política
lingüística centro di eccellenza le
multilinguisme per il
multilinguismo e la politica -
МНОГОЯЗЫЧИЕ**



Executive Committee: Prof. M. Dimopoulos, Rector; Prof. D. Karadimas, Vice-Rector; Prof. A. Chalkaidakis, Dean of the School of Philosophy, Prof. E. Karamalengou, Prof. D. Drossos and the members of the scientific committee below

Scientific committee: Emerita Prof. Bessie Dendrinou, Prof. R. Delveroudi, Assoc. Prof. M. Iakovou, Assoc. Prof. Kia Karavas, Prof. Marilena Karyolemou, Prof. B. Mitsikopoulou, Prof. E. Sella and Assoc. Prof. D. Weidenmayer.

MULTILINGUALISM OBSERVATORY

The purpose of the first and only Multilingualism Observatory in Greece is: (a) to collect valid and reliable data on the languages used, taught and promoted in Greece and Cyprus, (b) to record data on attitudes and resistance to languages, to linguistic diversity and pluri-/multilingualism (c) to monitor and research findings regarding bi-/multilingualism in Greece and beyond, (d) to investigate the position of the Greek language and Greek studies in Europe and beyond, in European institutions and on the internet.

Research findings and data collected are disseminated through the CEM website with a view to raising the awareness of the civil society, of university students in language studies, and language educators. They also constitute the basis upon which to formulate proposals for language policies, in line with European directives and national aspirations.

LANGUAGE EDUCATION HUB

The research and educational activities carried out through the Hub networks are cognizant of the "multilingual turn in education" and support plurilingual and intercultural education. The Hub project team invites work based on views of language as a complex semiotic system that shapes and is shaped by socio-cultural practices and social discourses and encourages pedagogical approaches that attend to helping learners develop their ability to use their total semiotic repertoire.

The projects and programmes that the Hub carries out and supports (a) promote the teaching, learning and assessment of languages in concert with one another, (b) aim at creating context-specific and plurilingual pedagogies and helping to implement them at all levels of education, (c) seek the development of plurilingual ethos of communication and inter-/cross-linguistic mediation strategies in education.

Central to the work carried out through the Hub is the "Teachers for Multilingualism" Network whose classroom practices aim at making purposeful use of their students' total semiotic repertoire. Their practices and other projects/actions of interest to language educators are publicised and in the Language Education Portal.

Ongoing research in CEM

- Multilingual students and graduates of Greek universities (project description in Greek: [here](#))
- Heritage languages in community schools in Greece: Their role in shaping cultural identities (project description in Greek: [here](#))
- The languages and "shades" of university students' multilingualisms (Project description in Greek: [here](#))
- The Greek language and Greek studies around the world (project description in Greek: [here](#))

Projects

CEM embraces and/or endorses research and educational projects carried out by groups of scholars from the NKUA and other academic institutions:

- [Tracing racism in anti-racist discourse](#)
- [Revitalizing Sanna, a Cypriot-Arabic language](#)
- [Mediation in teaching, learning and assessment](#)

Collaborations and partnerships

CEM has

- signed bilateral agreements for collaboration with the Observatoire européen du plurilinguisme ([OEP](#)) and the Centre of Excellence of the [UNISTRASI](#). Also, it has signed agreements with the [Centre of Foreign Languages](#) and the [Centre for the Teaching of Modern Greek](#) of the NKUA, so as to: (a) conduct experimental research in teaching and learning languages, and (b) pilot innovative educational practices
- contributed to the formation of the Network for Multilingualism, in the context of the CIVIS European university alliance. The network is working towards a common MA degree programme in Multilingualism and Language Policy and has designed the first seminar series on [Multilingualism: the language of CIVIS](#), to students of the universities in this alliance
- recognized the work of the [research centres and laboratories of the NKUA](#) as well as [those of other Greek universities](#) which have applied for collaboration and membership. It is prepared to work with them on proposed projects and plan events jointly
- has joined the ECSPM and is a member of the CURUM, an alliance of 15 research centres working on issues of bi-/multilingualism and takes part in European projects such as the European Language Equality Project, in ECSPM-CURUM symposia, research actions.

Communication

URL: <https://cem.uoa.gr/>

Email: cem.nkua@gmail.com