



# BEYOND LANGUAGE BARRIERS

Friday, 1st December 2017

**Symposium**  
organized by the ECSPM  
(European Civil Society Platform  
for Multilingualism)

Hellenic Open University building  
2-4 Gravias Street, 1<sup>st</sup> floor  
Kaningos Square (center of Athens)

With the generous support of:  
the Hellenic Open University (HOU)  
& the School of Education,  
National and Kapodistrian University of Athens



## EUROPEAN CIVIL SOCIETY

### PLATFORM FOR MULTILINGUALISM

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### Programme

- 10.00-10.30 Welcome address  
Introductory remarks by ECSPM president, Prof. B. Dendrinos
- 10.30-11.45 **Social, aesthetic and linguistic literacies for the creative participation in European societies of displaced populations and people in adversity**
- a) Prof. Thalia Dragona: “Curing the limbo” An intervention for the integration of refugees by the Municipality of Athens
  - b) Prof. George Androulakis: Research-driven educational actions for refugees: the project P.R.E.S.S. of the Hellenic Open University
  - c) Prof. Mary Leontsini “Democratic School Governance for Inclusion (of refugees and immigrants): a whole community approach”. A project of the School of Education, National and Kapodistrian University of Athens
- 11.45-12.15 Coffee break
- 12.15-13.15 Relevant work carried out in Europe’s multilingualism centres
- a) Dr Cor van der Meer “Critical Skills in Life and Work” A project focussed on immigrants, by the “Mercator European Research Centre on Multilingualism and Language Learning” hosted in the Fryske Academy, in Fryslân, the Netherlands
  - b) Dr Theo Marinis, “ProLanguage: The protective role of language in global migration and mobility: Language policies in refugee settings”. A project by the Centre for Literacy and Multilingualism of the University of Reading, Reading, UK
- 13.15-14.30 Lunch break
- 14.30-15.30 **The role of translation, technology and linguistic resources for the safeguarding of multilingualism in Europe**
- a) Dr Stelios Piperidis: Regional European delegate “European Language Resource Coordination” – project of the Connecting Europe Facility aiming at creating a Digital Single Market in Europe (initiated by the European Commission to overcome one of the main challenges of the language barrier faced by EU member state services, ministries and citizens)
  - b) The work of ECSPM partner organisation: “Cracking the Language Barriers”
  - c) Ms Alexandra Buchler: Director of “Literature Across Frontiers”, a European Platform for Literary Exchange, Translation and Policy Debate, aiming to develop intercultural dialogue through literature and translation, as well as to highlight less translated literatures.
- 15.30-16.30 The work of other ECSPM member and partner organisations
- a) Network to Promote Linguistic Diversity: Our languages in Europe
  - b) European Centre of Modern Languages (Graz, Austria)
  - c) Lifelong Learning Platform - European Civil Society for Education
  - d) International Federation of Language Teacher Association