



Routes of Communication between Africa and Europe

Language Contact and Language Change in Postcolonial Societies

Kommunikationswege zwischen Afrika und Europa, Sprachkontakt und Sprachwandel in postkolonialen Gesellschaften

The bilingual conference *Routes of Communication /Kommunikationswege* focusses on two contradicting effects that media has on language practices in the African-European context: on the one hand, modern types of mass media serve as a platform for non-canonical and emerging varieties. They support new forms of mixed language use, such as code switching, code mixing and networked multilingualism. On the other hand, new types of media contribute to the global spread of standard varieties which affect local language practices and can shift them towards a norm-oriented use of language. The interplay between standardisation and variation, fixity and fluidity in postcolonial contexts is the main focus of *Routes of Communication /Kommunikationswege*. The conference discusses new pathways, theoretical concepts and research methods to model the dynamics of languages in contact. In doing so, it aims at a better understanding of local language practices in postcolonial societies and their interconnection with global dynamics.

Conference 22 February 2019 / Graduiertenkolleg 22. Februar 2019, 9.30 – 13.30, VOC-Zaal, Bushuis (Kloveniersburgwal 48)

Programme

09.30 – 10.00 **Pieter Muysken** (RU), on Code-Mixing, Bilingual Speech and Language Change

10.00 – 10.30 **Horst Simon** (FU Berlin), on field research in Namibia

10.30 – 11.00 **Henning Radke** (DIA), on networked multilingualism in Namibian social media and Virtual Community Building

11.00 - 11.15 coffee break

11.15 – 11.45 **Birte Kellermeier-Rehbein** (U Wuppertal), on the standardization of German in Namibia

11.45 – 12.15 **Christian Zimmer** (FU Berlin), on the variability of Namibian German

12.15 – 12.45 **Nicoline van der Sijs** (RU), on the Dutch language worldwide

12.45-13.30 lunch

Moderation: **Hanco Jürgens** (DIA) and **Dick Smakman** (U Leiden)

Free admittance, but registration is required (h.radke@uva.nl). After the conference, there will be an opportunity to exchange thoughts and ideas during a free lunch.

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