



ReN AILA Symposium: Social and affective factors in home language maintenance and development

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Symposium format:

- **ReN symposium**

Symposium mode:

- **Hybrid**

Sub-themes:

- **LINGUISTIC SOCIAL ISSUES:** linguistic (in)justice, power, advocacy, attitude & bias, diversity-emancipation, discriminations, ethnicity and gender, ideology, language & social justice
- **LANGUAGES IN SOCIETY:** bilingualism, multilingualism, plurilingualism, multilingual classroom, translanguaging, literacy & literacies, heritage language, home language, migrants, deaf, sign/gesture

Short abstract in English:

This symposium, organised by the AILA Research Network (ReN) on “Social and Affective Factors in Home Language Maintenance and Development”, will showcase current research in the field. ReN members research a broad range of issues, including but not limited to both formal (within school systems) and informal (community-based grass-roots) initiatives. Themes include:

- factors that affect language maintenance and development – ranging from micro-level (family language policies and practices) to macro-level (mainstream educational policies and their implementation),
- dissemination – approaches to information sharing between researchers and communities,
- strategies to support and motivate families and communities to maintain their language and these strategies’ effectiveness,
- raising awareness of bi/multilingualism in mainstream societies – is bi/multilingualism seen as a threat or opportunity,
- methodological considerations and developments in investigating researching socio-emotional factors in language transmission.

**Argument:**

There is evidence that families, communities and educators do not access research findings on home language maintenance, and that there is little interaction between the informal and formal agents of language socialisation. The ReN has played an important role in increasing cross-fertilisation across different sectors and in making research findings accessible to stakeholders, and this symposium further contributes to these efforts. The symposium aims at (i) sharing and integrating knowledge gained from informal and formal initiatives in the topic area of the ReN, (ii) identifying challenges for maintenance and development of home language(s) in diverse multilingual contexts, and (iii) developing strategies to promote bi/multilingualism in families and society.