



ELF in education: setting agendas for the future

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Symposium format:

- **ReN symposium**

Symposium mode:

- **Hybrid**

Sub-themes (multiple choices - delete the others):

- ☐ **LANGUAGE TEACHING AND LEARNING:** teacher education, curricula and education, classrooms, instruction, task-based learning, EAP, study abroad, (virtual) exchanges, materials and methods

Abstract:

ELF refers to the use of English in intercultural situations where speakers with different linguacultural backgrounds share English as their common means of communication and as a dynamic and co-constructed linguistic resource (Jenkins, Cogo & Dewey 2011; Seidlhofer, Breiteneder & Pitzl 2006; Jenkins, Baker & Dewey 2018). Or as posed by Sifakis and Tsantila (2018: 1), “the function of English as a contact language in communications involving primarily non-native users of English from various international, multilingual and heterogeneous settings, to which each user brings a variety of English that he or she is most familiar and comfortable with and employs various strategies in order to communicate effectively.”

Over the years, ELF has become a full-fledged research field with its findings and outcomes generating important scholarship all over the world, including applications of different types and scopes in the most diverse educational contexts and landscapes. The intent of this symposium is to bring together colleagues (teachers, teacher educators, researchers, policy makers, etc.) interested in exploring different ways in which ELF research can impact education.

More specifically, we are interested in drawing from the extensive ELF research literature and collective experience in applying ELF research, to outline specific directions and inroads within different domains of English language teaching, such as language policy, curriculum, identity, assessment, language learning materials and teacher education. Ultimately, the symposium aspires to prompt participants to take stock from previous ELF-related research and inspire them to develop a series of specific research agendas for the future within major ELT fields. To this end, presenters in the symposium are invited to respond to the following questions:

1. In what ways does ELF research *change* current standpoints in this specific field? What *new* perspectives does ELF research bring about in each one of these domains?
2. In what *specific* ways can you envision ELT moving forward as a direct result of the impact of ELF research? Which *specific* agendas would you draw for the future?

Keywords: ELF; ELF research; ELF and education; future perspectives.