

# Multilingualism and Language Policies across Europe

HKU Constituent Theme-  
*Languages, Media & Communication:*  
*Language in Education & Assessment Seminar Series*

Speaker

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## Abstract

The ongoing enlargement of the European Union along its eastern borders is leading to increasing levels of language diversity and contact in this region through growing transnational movements of people. Following a brief theoretical introduction on multilingualism, this paper introduces a range of diverging multilingual settings both in Western and Central /Eastern Europe. Special attention will be paid to language policies and practices in education. We shall argue that the study of approaches to language management needs to involve critical analyses of language in society that take into account socio-historic conditions of language (ideological) contexts.

*Dr Gabrielle Hogan-Brun is Senior Research Fellow in the Graduate School of Education, University of Bristol, UK. She is currently working on a comparative British Academy funded research project on emerging language dynamics in the Baltic republics and runs the British Academy funded Baltic Language and Integration Network (BLaIN; [www.blain-online.org](http://www.blain-online.org)).*

*Her published work includes the guest edited special journal issue entitled 'Language and Social Processes in the Baltic States surrounding EU Accession' (in the Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development, 2005), and the book Language Minorities in Europe: Frameworks - Status - Prospects (Palgrave, Houndsmills, 2003). She is Editor of the book series 'Palgrave Studies in Minority Languages and Communities', and of the international journal Current Issues in Language Planning.*

*Her research areas are: language diversity, bilingualism and bilingual education, school language policies, language ideologies and language rights; sociolinguistics and language policy, the politics of difference (multiculturalism, ethnicity and nationalism); citizenship language testing regimes. (Email: [g.hogan-brun@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:g.hogan-brun@bristol.ac.uk))*

This seminar is co-presented with  
Comparative Education Research Centre (CERC),  
Faculty of Education, HKU.



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