

LANGUAGE PRACTICE IN ADVERSARIAL TIMES

STELLENBOSCH 25 - 26 September 2023



The **South African Translators' Institute (SATI)** and the **Mozambican Translators' and Interpreters' Association (ATIM)** are delighted to announce our joint conference on the theme *Language Practice in Adversarial Times*. This conference will be SATI's Fourth Triennial Conference and marks the first collaboration between South Africa and Mozambique. It will be held both virtually and in-person on **25 and 26 September 2023**.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Prof. Federico Federici and Pious Mannah

"Understanding risks in one's own language is a step towards being able to make better-informed choices."

This tweet by Prof. Federici immediately reveals the principle behind the collaboration between these two keynote speakers. Together, they have explored linguistic equality when it comes to community preparedness and risk reduction. Prof. Federico Federici and Pious Mannah will present a joint keynote panel address at the SATI/ATIM conference in September. Prof. Federici will join via our hybrid functionality from Italy, while Mr Mannah will join the conference in person. We are very excited about their participation!



Federico Federici is a professor of intercultural crisis communication at University College London. His current research focuses on multilingual communication in cascading crises. His publications include several academic articles in highly acclaimed journals.



Pious Mannah works in community preparedness for disaster in Freetown, Sierra Leone. He holds a master's degree in Development Management and has hands-on experience working with risk reduction in communities. He currently works as a Do No Harm Trainer.

Dr Annette Schiller

"Never before has there been such a demand for translated text, never before has technology developed at such a rate, some of it good, some of it not so good... and never before has it been so imperative for us to support independent translators in being prepared for the marketplace in which they operate."

Dr Annette Schiller will join us in person to present a keynote address at the SATI/ATIM conference in September. The quote above from a 2019 interview with Dr Schiller gives just a tiny glimpse of her deep understanding of our profession. In keeping with the 50/50 academic-practice focus of our conference, Dr Schiller is uniquely positioned as a translator in practice and an academic involved in teaching.



In addition to being an ITIA-certified German to English translator, she works as part-time lecturer at Dublin City University, teaching German translation. What is more, she is currently one of the vice-presidents of FIT. Her work for FIT over many years has put her in contact with the issues in our industry across the globe.

SECOND CALL FOR PAPERS

Theme: *Language Practice in Adversarial Times*

We invite papers that explore and highlight the **resilience**, **opportunities** and **innovations** associated with the unexpected shifts and challenges in our profession in recent years. Not only have new international conflicts erupted, but many countries are also facing financial recessions following the COVID-19 pandemic, bringing new political dynamics. In South Africa, efforts to regulate our industry with the creation of the South African Language Practice Council (SALPC) bring new questions and opportunities. In addition, the multilingual reality of most African countries sometimes presents treacherous waters to navigate. Translators, interpreters and other language practitioners are left with questions about how our industry can navigate these adversarial times positively.

The conference is aimed at **both practitioners and academics**, and we look forward to receiving proposals from both groupings. Proposals can deal with any aspect of the theme.

Topics of interest include (but are not limited to):

- Interpreting and translation in conflict zones
- Multilingual communication readiness and the role of language practitioners in times of crisis
- Language development in Africa despite funding limitations
- Vulnerable communities and translation as empowerment
- Language access in multilingual contexts (such as hospitals and court rooms)
- The ethics dilemmas that face language practitioners who work with vulnerable populations
- Language policy and planning: challenges and opportunities
- Professionalism and professional development in an unregulated industry
- South African Language Practitioners' Council ... whereto from here?
- The practical challenges and opportunities related to freelancing
- New technologies: CAT tools, machine translation, AI and ChatGPT
- Overcoming the physical, social and economic impact of COVID-19

We welcome submissions from both practitioners and academics for:

- presentations (20 minutes + 10 minutes for questions),
- panel discussions (90 minutes), and
- workshops (90 minutes).

Submissions should include a proposed title and an English abstract of no more than 500 words. Please also indicate if your submission is for an individual paper, panel, or workshop and whether your presentation will take place virtually or in person. Should you wish to present at the conference in an official South African or Mozambican language other than English, International Sign Language or South African Sign Language, please indicate this in your submission. Your submission should be accompanied by a short bio of no more than 150 words and your photograph in PNG or JPEG format.

CALL FOR WORKSHOPS AND TRAINING EVENTS

We invite presenters to offer workshops on **27 and 28 September** aimed at language professionals in practice. Workshops may address any relevant skill, knowledge of a specific language, any applicable software or technology, or business management skills for language professionals. Submission should indicate the intended audience (i.e., general, beginners, advanced; language group; skills group), the amount of time needed, and the optimal number of attendees for your event.

Submissions can be uploaded on the [dedicated page](#) of the SATI website or emailed to executive@translators.org.za by **15 June 2023**.

Key dates:

Deadline for submission of abstracts: **15 June**

Authors informed of acceptance: **15 July**

Early-bird registrations open: **1 August**

Submission of full version of papers: **10 August**

Provisional programme published: **15 August**

Regular registrations open: **20 August**

Final programme published: **1 September**

Registrations close: **15 September**

Should you have any questions or queries, please contact the SATI Office via email at executive@translators.org.za or +27 79 730 8121