



**4th International Conference on Early Language Learning and
Multilingual Education in Early Childhood (ELLME'26)
Gdańsk, 8-9 September 2026**

Call for Papers

The Department of Applied Linguistics, the Department of Pedagogy, and the Department of English and American Studies at the University of Gdańsk, Poland, in cooperation with ELLME net (Early Language Learning and Multilingual Education Network), are proud to welcome researchers from around the world to contribute to the 4th International Conference on Early Language Learning and Multilingual Education in Early Childhood.

In an increasingly interconnected and globalized world, the significance of multilingualism in the earliest years of a child's development cannot be overstated. Acquiring multiple languages during the formative stages of life not only enhances cognitive and linguistic abilities but also fosters a deeper appreciation for diverse cultures and perspectives. This rapidly growing area of research has attracted considerable attention from scholars, educators, and policymakers, as the benefits of early multilingual exposure extend beyond linguistic competence to encompass broader cognitive, sociocultural, and educational dimensions.

The 4th ELLME Conference will serve as a pivotal platform for exploring the complex interplay among language acquisition, cognitive development, and social and family engagement. Promoted by ELLME net, this international event aims to analyse and discuss issues related to multilingualism—in its broadest sense—from birth to the beginning of compulsory schooling (typically at 6–7 years of age), as well as in the early grades of primary education (Grades 1–3, approximately up to age 9).

Researchers, PhD students, and practitioners are invited to present research- or practice-oriented contributions related to children from birth to approximately 9 years of age, situated in any multilingual context (second language, foreign language, additional language, minority language, heritage language, sign language, etc.).

Possible topics of interest

1. Early language/multilingual acquisition
2. Early bi-/multilingual education
3. Early bi-/multilingual identity
5. Multilingual and transnational families
6. Second or foreign (L2/F2) language teaching/learning at preschool
7. Classroom practices in early multilingual education
8. Methodological and ethical issues in early multilingual research
9. Teacher education on multilingualism
10. Multilingual policies for early language learners

Keynote speakers

So as to encourage discussions, the following international keynotes have been invited to contribute to the conference:

Prof. Thomai Alexiou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

Prof. Joanna Rokita-Jaśków, University of the National Education Commission, Poland

Prof. Piotr Romanowski, University of Warsaw, Poland

Prof. Mila Schwartz, Oranim College of Education, Israel

Types of speakers' contributions

As a speaker you can present up to two contributions of the following modalities:

1. Presentation: 15-min communication + 5 min discussion.
2. Workshop: 60-min, hands-on session on any of the conference topics, either research- or pedagogy-oriented.
3. Poster: Dedicated poster sessions will be scheduled during the conference, providing participants with the opportunity to discuss the work directly with the authors. Posters should be research-oriented. Instructions on poster specifications will be provided upon acceptance.

Language

The language of the conference will be English but some sessions could be in Polish.

Important dates

CFP opens 1st December, 2025

CFP closes 20th March, 2026

Notification of acceptance by 31st March, 2026

Early bird registration: 1st April–20th May, 2026

Late bird registration: 21st May 2026–10th July, 2026

Provisional programme available 20th July, 2026

Conference 8th–9th September, 2026

Abstract submission

An abstract (200-250 words) together with a short biodata (70-100 words) needs to be sent through this online form:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/16mtQ033hjrJd5MD6ZzJRVcIy4dj8GEVEGMIDLBdwg_4/viewform?edit_requested=true

DEADLINE for submission: 20th March, 2026.

Please note that the abstract needs to be copied and pasted into the online form, no document can be attached.

Only the corresponding author should send the abstract on behalf of all authors. S/he will need to include information about all other contributors/participants in the online form (full name, affiliation, email address, short bionote).

All abstracts will be blind peer-reviewed by the conference scientific committee. Acceptance notification will be sent to authors no later than 31st March, 2026.

Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns: ellme26@ug.edu.pl

Post conference publication options

Selected papers will be published in *Glottodidactica*, a peer-reviewed journal, indexed in Scopus ([Glottodidactica](#))

A post-conference thematic volume or a special issue of another indexed journal (in the process of settling) will be published.

Organizing Committee

Prof. Hadrian Aleksander Lankiewicz, chair

Dr. Magdalena Grabowska, conference secretary

Dr. Michał Daszkiewicz, member

Prof. Beata Karpińska-Musiał, member

Dr. Maciej Plawski, member (website info)

Dr. Małgorzata Smentek-Lewandowska, member

Student assistants

Julita Tomalak

Martyna Sieńko

Julia Kaczorek

Natalia Krawczyk

Scientific Committee

Prof. Thomai Alexiou, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece

Prof. Ana Andugar Soto, University of Alicante, Spain

Prof. Beatriz Cortina-Pérez, University of Granada, Spain

Prof. Cristina Corcoll López, Ramon Llull University, Spain

Prof. Dolores Fernández Martínez, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

Prof. Przemysław Gębał, University of Gdańsk, Poland

Prof. Saeed Karimi Aghdam Ordaklou, Nord University, Norway

Prof. Aneta Lewińska, University of Gdańsk, Poland

Prof. Natalia Martínez León, University of Granada, Spain

Prof. Gina Oxbrow, University of Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, Spain

Prof. Ekaterina Protassowa, University of Helsinki, Finland

Prof. Natasha Ringblom, Umeå University, Sweden

Prof. Joanna Rokita Jaśków, University of the National Education Commission, Poland

Prof. Piotr Romanowski, University of Warsaw, Poland

Prof. Zhailagul Sagyndykova, Ualikhanov University, Kokshetau, Kazakhstan

Prof. Mila Schwartz, Oranim College of Education, Israel

Prof. Anna Szczepaniak-Kozak, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland

Prof. Emilia Wąsikiewicz-Firlej, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Poland

Prof. Aigul Zhakupova, Ualikhanov University, Kokshetau, Kazakhstan

ELLME'26 Registration fees

Type	Early bird 1st April-20th May, 2026	Regular 21st May- 10th July, 2026
Speakers and poster presenters (scholars)	160 Euro/ 690 PLN	180 Euro/ 780 PLN
Attendees without presentations; MA and PhD students	80 Euro/ 350 PLN	100 Euro/ 430
In-service teachers (workshop sessions)	50 Euro/ 220 PLN	60 Euro/ 260 PLN
Conference dinner	50 Euro/ 220 PLN	50 Euro / 220 PLN
Pre-conference meeting in a pub, in the evening on the day before the conference with a walk in the old town. Details will be given a few days before the event.	Gratuitous but participants pay individually for refreshments	Gratuitous but participants pay individually for refreshments

All details regarding registration, travel and the conference programme will be available on **conference website**:

<https://ziply.pk/ELLME'26>

Conference email address: ellme26@ug.edu.pl

We are looking forward to seeing you in Gdańsk. Save the date!

