



**Professionalizing the teachers of today and tomorrow:  
*Language Teacher Identity and beyond***

Paderborn University, Germany: November 21, 2025

We are seeking proposals for a one-day symposium in November 2025 on (foreign) language teacher identity within various sociocultural, institutional, and policy-driven contexts. Language teacher identity (LTI) is a crucial aspect of teacher development and professionalization, which is dynamic and multifaceted in nature. This conference aims to explore the evolving nature of LTI, examining how educators construct, negotiate, and perform their professional identities in diverse linguistic and educational settings at any stage of their career. Through empirical research, theoretical perspectives, case studies and reflective narratives, we aim to highlight the interplay between identity, pedagogy, professionalization, and teacher development.

**Key themes:**

- Identity formation in multilingual and multicultural classrooms,
- The influence of teacher education programs on LTI,
- (Foreign) Language use in classrooms and its influence on LTI,
- Language policies, professional development, and their impact on LTI,
- The intersection of teacher agency and professionalization,
- Digital technologies and their role in shaping teacher identity,
- Migration, integration, and the evolving role of language educators,

**Objectives:**

1. To investigate the dynamic and multifaceted nature of LTI in different linguistic and educational contexts.
2. To examine the role of professionalization in shaping language teacher identity, with a focus on future language teachers.
3. To analyze the impact of policy, globalization, and digitalization on LTI and teacher training.
4. To foster interdisciplinary discussions on challenges and opportunities in teacher identity formation and to provide a platform for practitioners, researchers, and policymakers to share insights and best practices.

**Confirmed keynote speakers:**

**Submission Guidelines:**

We invite submissions of original research papers, case studies, and reflective pieces on topics related to the conference theme. Abstracts (250-300 words, in APA7 style) should be submitted by **June 15, 2025**. Submissions should clearly state the research objectives, methodology, and relevance to the conference theme. We would also like to encourage early career scholars to present their work (in progress) at the conference. Selected papers will be considered for publication in an edited volume or a special journal issue. Participation without presentation is also possible; please register using the email address below. The conference language is English.

**Submissions via email to:** [LTI2025@upb.de](mailto:LTI2025@upb.de)

Submission deadline: June 15, 2025

Notification of acceptance: July 2025

**Contact Information:** For inquiries, please contact [katharina.elbwart@upb.de](mailto:katharina.elbwart@upb.de)

**Organizers & Sponsors:**

Dr. Katharina v. Elbwart & Dagmar Keatinge, English Department at Paderborn University