

**Association for Slavic, East European, and Eurasian Studies (ASEEES), Annual Convention 6–9  
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**Panel title: Performing Ethnolinguistic Heritage (Convener Marek Nekula)**

Titel of the paper „Performing Heritage Language across generations: LangGener“

Abstract

The paper addresses the interrelation of performance and language heritage by focusing on linguistic performance in bilingual families. In particular, it zooms in into the practices of heritage language transmission in the context of Polish-German bilingualism in Poland and Germany. The aim of the paper is to present the research design of the binational research project LangGener “Language across generations” which is jointly funded by the German and the Polish Research Foundations (DFG and NCN, 2018-2021). The aim of the project is an integrative account of the language practices in a specific group of Polish-German bilinguals. The research will focus on the interplay between language biographies and speech of two generations of bilingual communities having experienced important historical events. Language use will be analysed on authentic material gained during field research. The research will focus on bilingual persons of two generations whose biographies has been influenced by different historical conditions: 1) the oldest generation, living in Poland on the territories belonging to Germany before 1945; 2) the middle generation, born in Poland on the same territories, living contemporary in Germany. The study will therefore include persons belonging to two generations, derived from the same families and/or local communities but living in a different language environment. In order to provide empirical material to other researchers, we will create a linguistic data corpus. The language biographies will be analysed in terms of the order and conditions of the language acquisition, their functional distribution, as well as the linguistic ideologies of the speakers.