



VYTAUTAS
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Faculty of
Humanities



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Faculty of Law



International
Language and Law
Association

THE 7TH GENERAL ILLA CONFERENCE

Language and Law in an Age of Uncertainty and Transition

Hosted by The Faculty of Humanities and the Faculty of Law, Vytautas Magnus University

Date: 3-5 September 2025

VENUE: Vytautas Magnus University, V. Putvinskio g. 23, Kaunas

PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER 2025

8.30-15.00	Onsite Registration (Hallway at the entrance)
9.00-9.30	Conference Opening
9.30-11.00	<p>Plenary Talk</p> <p>Paying Tribute to Professor Lawrence Solan and Celebrating the Conference Anniversary</p> <p>Ralf Poscher (Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law) <i>The Telos in and of Legal Hermeneutics</i></p> <p>Memorial talk: Liao Meizhen (Central China Normal University of Wuhan)</p> <p>Special address: Dieter Stein Chair: Dieter Stein</p>

11.15-13.45	Room t.b.a. Communicating Legal Knowledge Across Media: Multimodal and Traditional Legal Texts 1/3 Chairs: Jan Engberg, Karin Luttermann	Room t.b.a. Approaches to Legal Argumentation and Interpretation 1/2 Chairs: Stanisław Goźdz-Roszkowski, Iwona Witczak-Plisiecka	Room t.b.a. Linguistic Meaning in Legal Interpretation 1/2 Chairs: Cleo Condoravdi, Brandon Waldon, Dieter Stein	Room t.b.a. Philosophy of Law 1/4 Chairs: Tomasz Gizbert-Studnicki, Adam Dyrda, Paweł Banas
	David Griffin and Dana Roemling <i>Legal Language as Authority: A Multimodal Comparative Study of Legitimate and Pseudolegal Texts</i>	Warren Bonnard, Mary C. Lavissière, Anas Belfathi, Nicolas Hernandez, Christine Jacquin, Laura Monceaux Cachard <i>Rhetorical structure of SCOTUS majority opinions</i>	Stanley Dubinsky <i>Linguist as language sherpa: Linguistic paths to legal interpretation</i>	Maciej Juzaszek <i>New Harms or Old Problems? The Shifting Language of Harm in Law and Morality</i>
	Karen Petroski <i>Pseudolaw Self-Publication: From Text to Video</i>	Stanisław Goźdz-Roszkowski <i>Voices of Dissent: Rhetorical Divergence in the Obergefell v. Hodges Opinions</i>	Mateusz Zeifert <i>Rethinking the role of context in statutory interpretation – drawing from Ronald Langacker’s cognitive semantics</i>	Katarzyna Elias <i>Three revolutionary concepts of natural right</i>
	Ruth Breeze <i>Redressing the power balance in legal knowledge: Multimodality in communicating UK eviction law</i>	Tadeusz Zbiegień <i>Decision Making Under Deep Uncertainty in Legal Disputes: A Conceptual Framework</i>	Tilden "Tilly" Brooks <i>Facts, Law, and Ordinary Meaning: Linguistics in the Interpretive Domain</i>	Wojciech Załuski <i>The Metaethical Status of Moral Norms in Evolutionary Focus</i>
	Jan Engberg, Karin Luttermann <i>Explanatory depth and constructed knowledge in a legal edutainment show – a case study of “Auf den Spuren der Kudamm-Raser”</i>	Jekaterina Nikitina <i>“This is, for us, a plaster on a wooden leg”: metaphors for legal reasoning</i>	Paulina Konca <i>Change of linguistic meaning as a reason to update legal interpretation</i>	Paweł Banaś, Marcin Woźny <i>Topic continuity, semantic identity and the language of law</i>
	Jūratė Ruzaitė <i>Framing Hate Crimes: How ‘Stop Hate UK’ Uses Narratives</i>	Iwona Witczak-Plisiecka <i>Readdressing the usefulness of a speech act-theoretic approach to legal problems</i>	Elizabeth Coppock and Jill Anderson <i>The Square of Litigation</i>	Karolina Śliwiecka, Wojciech Ciszewski, Maciej Próchnicki

	<i>to Raise Awareness and Mobilise Action</i>			<i>When yes does not mean yes - the folk understanding of sexual coercion</i>
13.45 -15.00	Lunch break			
15.00-16.00	Plenary Talk Rosanna Sornicola (University of Naples “Federico II”) “In hoc tempore barbarico”. Language and Law in the Crisis of the Roman World Chair: Paolo Greco			
16.00-16.30	Coffee break			
16.30-19.20	Room t.b.a. Communicating Legal Knowledge Across Media: Multimodal and Traditional Legal Texts 2/3 Chairs: Jan Engberg, Karin Luttermann	Room t.b.a. Language and Power in the Courtroom 1/3 Chairs: Magdalena Szczyrbak, Jacqueline Visconti	Room t.b.a. Linguistic Meaning in Legal Interpretation 2/2 Chairs: Cleo Condoravdi, Brandon Waldon, Dieter Stein	Room t.b.a. Philosophy of Law 2/4 Chairs: Tomasz Gizbert-Studnicki, Adam Dyrda, Pawet Banas
	Agata Dąbrowska <i>Multimodality of the ‘Constitution’ in Polish public discourse 2015-2023</i>	Tatiana Grieshofer <i>The principle of orality in civil proceedings</i>	Jill Anderson <i>“Any” Questions -- Lexical Vagueness and Structural Ambiguity in Legal Interpretation</i>	Monika Zalewska <i>Hans Kelsen’s Language Games</i>
	Silvia Cacchiani <i>Communicating knowledge about the Costituzione della Repubblica Italiana on https://www.senatoragazzi.it</i>	Magdalena Szczyrbak <i>High-conflict litigants and pseudolaw tactics in court: The case of self-represented sovereign citizens</i>	Arthur Joyeux <i>The expression of vagueness in legal discourse and the role of the intersective adjectives</i>	Bartłomiej Brzozowski <i>The Experience of a Legal Text. Application the ‘Relational Interpretation’ to Legal Theory</i>
	Waldemar Nazarov <i>Linguistic Flexibility in Cross-Systemic Legal Communication: Examining Challenges in Institutionalized Discourses Through a Frame-Semantic Perspective</i>	Anna Alsina Naudi <i>Equal Footing in the Courtroom? Attorney’s Perspectives on Court Interpreting</i>	Jennifer Smolka <i>Legal interpretation of conjunction and disjunction: cumulative and/or alternative</i>	Klaudyna Horniczak <i>Legal concept of gender: in search for paths for amelioration</i>

	Darius Amilevičius, Mindaugas Petkevičius, Julija Kiršienė, Saulė Milčiuvienė <i>Preventing Legal Hallucinations in AI Systems: A Semantic Segmentation-Based Approach in Legal Knowledge Graph Creation</i>	Campos-Pardillos, Miguel Angel <i>Fighting lawlessness and mob rule: Examining Power, Racism, and Social Order in Judges' Sentencing Remarks</i>	Timothy W. Grinsell <i>Are Questions Hearsay? A Semantic Analysis of Questions as Evidence</i>	Adam Dyrda, Tomasz Gizbert-Studnicki <i>The Making Sense of Dworkin's Pre-Interpretive Consensus</i>
			Kevin Müller, Annette Zoller-Eckenstein <i>Terminology of circular construction</i>	
20.00-	<p>Welcome Reception: Season Transition and A Farewell to Summer Join us for a Welcome Reception on the outdoor terrace of Restaurant Sala*, located on Nemunas Island, offering a scenic view of the Nemunas River. Address: Karaliaus Mindaugo pr. 50</p> <p>Cultural Highlight: Sunset Over the River Experience the beauty of the sunset over the Nemunas, expected at approximately 8:13 PM—though nature may have other plans. With weather ranging from rainy and overcast to sunny and warm, we invite you to embrace the Lithuanian way of uncertainty and the transitioning seasons!</p> <p>*sala in English means “island.” It is a countable, feminine-gender noun in the singular form and belongs to the 1st declension, which determines how the word changes across the seven cases in both singular and plural. See you at the event to learn more! 😊</p>			

THURSDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2025

9.00-15.00	Onsite Registration (Hallway at the entrance)			
9.00-10.00	Plenary Talk Eleonora Esposito (University of Navarra) <i>Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence: Analysing Language, Rethinking Law, Tackling Harm</i> Chair: Victoria Guillén-Nieto			
10.15-12.45	Room t.b.a. Historical (Socio)linguistics and Legal Documentation 1/2 Chair: Paolo Greco	Room t.b.a. Approaches to Legal Argumentation and Interpretation 2/2 Chairs: Stanisław Goźdz-Roszkowski (University of Lodz), Iwona Witczak-Plisiecka	Room t.b.a. Language of Prejudice, Discrimination and Violence 1/2 Chair: Victoria Guillén-Nieto	Room t.b.a. Philosophy of Law 3/4 Chairs: Tomasz Gizbert-Studnicki, Adam Dyrda, Paweł Banas
	Pierluigi Cuzzolin <i>Features of informal register in Gaius' Commentarii</i>	Kevin Tobia, Brandon Waldon, Nathan Schneider, Ethan Wilcox, Amir Zeldes <i>Large Language Models for Legal Interpretation? Don't Take Their Word for It</i>	Ana Yara Postigo Fuentes <i>Deconstructing Extremist Narratives: A Framework for Analysis, Classification, and Cybercrime Assessment</i>	Natalia Witosza <i>Can we accept punishment outside the legal system?</i>
	Elisa D'Argenio <i>At the Linguistic Crossroads of Roman and Langobard Law: The Legal Lexicon of the Edict of Rothari</i>	Sylvia Wojtczak <i>The influence of AI-powered legal information systems on lawyers' cognitive context in legal linguistic interpretation</i>	Elena Morandini <i>Mafia Language as Evidence: A Computational Forensic Analysis of Organized Crime Discourse</i>	Marek Malinowski <i>On the legitimacy of social sanctions</i>
	Maria Selig <i>Terminology, common law and the so-called rediscovery of Roman law. The case of medieval Occitan</i>	Manon Bouyé & Margaux Guillerit Improving the comprehension of judicial argumentation using generative AI: a comparison of ChatGPT's performance on written and oral Supreme Court genres	Brayan Andrey <i>Accent bias and social judgment in the courtroom: Experimental studies of attitudes toward witnesses' accents and their effects on legal decision-making</i>	Wojciech Ciszewski <i>Can a General Ban on Swearing Be Justified?</i>
	Rolf Kailuweit	Mikołaj Ryśkiewicz	Marek Uszyński	Pedro Moniz Lopes

	<i>Down by law? Co-officiality of the Corsican language</i>	<i>Empirical Analysis of Semantic Shifts in Judicial Opinions: A Corpus-Based Approach</i>	<i>Between Language and Politics: a new approach to the study of fig leaves</i>	<i>A linguistic account of action specificity - a stepping stone for legal theory and jurisprudence</i>
			Victoria Guillén-Nieto <i>'MENA' and its negative lexicalisation in Spanish far-right anti-immigration discourse</i>	Wojciech Graboń <i>Law, Idealization, and Objectual Understanding: On Some Assumptions About the Representational Capacity of Legal Concepts</i>
12.45-14.00	Lunch break			
14.15-15.15	European Legal Culture and Multilingualism 1/2 Chair: Anne Lise Kjær	Room t.b.a. Language and Power in the Courtroom 2/3 Chairs: Magdalena Szczyrbak, Jacqueline Visconti	Room t.b.a. Language of Prejudice, Discrimination and Violence 2/2 Chair: Victoria Guillén-Nieto	Room t.b.a. Philosophy of Law 4/4 Chairs: Tomasz Gizbert-Studnicki, Adam Dyrda, Paweł Banas
	Dariusz Koźbiat <i>Exploring formulaicity in judicial English and Polish Eurolects: A corpus-based analysis of grammar patterns in translated and non-translated language</i>	Paulina Nowak-Korcz <i>On Linguistic and Argumentative Strategies Used in the Closing Speeches by the Defence in French Criminal Proceedings</i>	Song Lijue <i>The Semantic Shift of "Domestic Violence" in Legal Interpretation: Insights from the Co-concurrence Analysis</i>	Agata Cebera & Jakub G. Firlus <i>Social Media as a Threat to Liberal Democracy and Governmental Communication</i>
	Eliza Chojecka <i>Lost in translation? The role of selective transmission in translating EU laws and its impact on EU legal consistency</i>	Giulia Lombardi <i>Punctuation and persuasion in lawyers' pleadings and written testimonies</i>	Béatrice Fracchiolla <i>Better Language for Better Laws?</i>	Maciej Macuga <i>The relation between vaccine passports and mandatory vaccination: public health ethics perspective</i>
15.15-16.15	Rita Juknevičienė <i>Translating court rulings from Lithuanian into English: rendering grammatically encoded necessity</i>	Rebecca Jenkins; Nuria Lorenzo-Dus <i>"Maybe we start by just a show of hands": a genre-based linguistic analysis of jury</i>	Communicating Legal Knowledge Across Media: Multimodal and Traditional Legal Texts 3/3	Krystyna Mokrzycka <i>Transitional justice as a possible new vector of therapeutic jurisprudence – an explorative study</i>

		<i>deliberation and interpretation of judicial directions</i>	Chairs: Jan Engberg, Karin Luttermann Henrik Oksanen <i>Uncertainty of Meaning in Complex Legal Language Structures – Varying Functions of Complex Sentence and Text Structures in German and Finnish Legal Texts</i>	
	Inesa Šeškauskienė <i>Metaphor or non-metaphor? Translating the Handbook on European Non-discrimination Law from English to Lithuanian</i>		Amna Anwar <i>Legislative Drafting and Plain Urdu Lexis in Pakistan: Is Popularization a Remedy?</i>	
16.15-16.45	Coffee break			
16.45-17.45	Plenary Talk Rodney Jones (University of Reading) & Christoph Hafner (City University of Hong Kong) <i>Generative AI and the Future of Legal Education</i> Chair: Magdalena Szczyrbak			
17.45-18.15 18.15-19.00	ILLA GENERAL ASSEMBLY EC MEETING			
19.30-	Conference Dinner Restaurant and beer brewery AVILYS* , located in Kaunas Old Town, in the cellars of the 18th century Address: Vilniaus g. 34 (t.b.c.) * <i>avilys</i> in English means “bee hive“			

FRIDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2025

9.00-10.00	Onsite Registration (Hallway at the entrance)			
10.00-11.00	Plenary Talk Auksė Balčytienė (Vytautas Magnus University) <i>Resisting uncertainty: Laying the ground for dialogue in the times of digital expressionism</i> Chair: Jūratė Ruzaitė			
11.00-11.30	Coffee break			
11.30-12.30	Room t.b.a. Language and Power in the Courtroom 3/3 Chairs: Magdalena Szczyrbak, Jacqueline Visconti	European Legal Culture and Multilingualism 2/2 Chair: Anne Lise Kjær	Room t.b.a. Law, Language and Politics Chair: Frances Olsen	Room t.b.a. Looking for Legislative Intent Chairs: Francesca Poggi, Damiano Canale
	Dana Roemling and Steven Coats <i>A New Corpus of Investigative Interviews and Criminal Justice Content</i>	Edward Clay <i>The Impact of Brexit on the Legal Language of the EU</i>	Daniel Greineder <i>Of Nordic Lights and Grizzled Warriors - International Arbitration and the Backlash against Globalization</i>	Krzysztof Poslajko <i>Legislative intent from the perspective of philosophy of mind</i>
	Milita Songailaitė, dr. Aušrinė Pasvenskienė, dr. Paulius Astromskis <i>The Power of Large Language Models in Proving Lithuanian Hate Speech in the Courtroom</i>	Rasa Volungeviciene <i>Concept of fraud at the crossroads of multilingualism and harmonisation of EU criminal law</i>	Illia Klinytskyi <i>Defining a Language Rights Protection Standard for Beneficiaries of International Protection: A Comparative Perspective</i>	Damiano Canale; Francesca Poggi; Giovanni Tuzet <i>The Impact of Legislative Intent on Judicial Decision-making: An Empirical Account</i>
12.30-14.00	Historical (Socio)linguistics and Legal Documentation 2/2 Chair: Paolo Greco Fabio Aperia <i>Heuristic possibilities offered by the MEDITA database for the study of the medieval Latin statutory lexicon of central Italy</i>		Dace Šulmane <i>State language - a value per se or a political tool?</i>	Constanza Ihnen & Flavia Carbonell <i>Gricean pragmatics and the construction of legal statutes</i>
	Dorottya Pálfi		Barbora Tomečková	Pernille Kloster

	<i>Demonstrative usage in the charters of Lucca</i>		<i>Distinguishing the Constitutional and National Identity: Case of Official Languages</i>	<i>Legislative Intent and Legislative Will in Danish Preparatory Works: A Conceptually Oriented Rhetorical Critique</i>
			Manfred Herbert <i>The admission of English as a court language in international commercial disputes: a critical survey of relevant initiatives in Europe</i>	
14.15-14.45	Conference Closing: Closing remarks, Acknowledgements, and Transitioning to 2027 Room t.b.a.			
15.30-	Cultural programme of your choice (t.b.c.): City Tour OR Visit to the M. K. Čiurlionis National Museum of Art (with the option to book a Virtual Reality experience featuring the painter's works; please note that the VR show requires an additional fee, payable individually)			