

I-LanD Journal – Identity, Language and Diversity
International Peer-Reviewed Journal

Call for papers for the special issue (1/2018)

Discursive Constructions of Migrants: Verbal and Visual Images of the ‘Other’

This special issue of the *I-LanD Journal* will focus on the discursive tensions emerging in printed media in relation to political populism. It will be edited by Massimiliano Demata (University of Turin, Italy), Ljiljana Šarić (University of Oslo, Norway), and Andreja Vezovnik (University of Ljubljana, Slovenia).

Submission of abstracts

Authors wishing to contribute to this issue are invited to send an extended abstract of their proposed article ranging between 600 and 1.000 words (excluding references) in MS Word format to the two editors by August 30, 2017. Proposals should not contain the authors' name and academic/professional affiliation and should be accompanied by an email including such personal information and sent to: massimiliano.demata@unito.it. Please put as subject line “I-LanD Special Issue 1/2018 – abstract submission”, and include the Journal e-mail address – ilandjournal@unior.it – by using the Cc option.

In order to meet the editorial process, the most important dates to remember are as follows:

- Submission of abstracts: **by August 30, 2017**.
- Notification of acceptance/rejection: **by October 10, 2017**.
- Submission of chapters: **by February 25, 2018**.

Description

This special issue of the *I-LanD Journal* on “Discursive Constructions of Migrants: Verbal and Visual Images of the ‘Other’” gives a contribution to a state-of-the-art critical perspective on those debates on migration which have become central in media and politics both in Europe and the USA. The five papers presented here look at the representation of migrants in public discourse from a variety of perspectives and provide the current debate on migration within and beyond Linguistics with some original insights into the discourses of migration.

The contemporary political climate, which has witnessed a resurgence of populist and nationalist ideologies on both sides of the Atlantic, has often revolved around migration issues and the alleged dangers that mass migration would bring to the Western ‘civilization’ and way of life. This climate has been to a great extent caused by a populist surge involving most of the West: populist movements have gained consensus and political space often on the basis of the identification of

immigrants with crime and terrorism, of their representation as a danger for the nation and its borders, and of the supposed failure of multiculturalism and integration.

Debates on migration in media and politics have also become the object of study of a growing literature in discourse analysis and media studies which is addressing the various, and increasingly complex, dimensions of the phenomenon. This special issue of the I-LanD Journal responds to the need to come to terms with the linguistic as well as the multimodal nature of migration discourses, which indeed occur in both 'traditional' mass media and social media, but is also looking at the transnational nature of the phenomenon by introducing a comparative approach to the discourse of migration which has often been neglected.

This special issue joins a growing literature on migration discourses which has placed strong emphasis on the impact of multimodal representations of migrants and encourages original contributions on the topic, urging further research in the global dimension of the discourse on migrants, whereby the rise of populism is giving rise to a xenophobic and racist discourse whose circulation is transnational.

More about *I-LanD Journal*

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The *I-LanD Journal* (<https://www.loffredoeditore.com/en/magazines/onlinemagazines/i-land>) reflects a commitment to publishing original and high quality research papers addressing issues of identity, language and diversity from new critical and theoretical perspectives. All submissions are double-blind peer-reviewed. In fulfillment of its mission, the *I-LanD Journal* provides an outlet for publication to international practitioners, with a view to disseminating and enhancing scholarly studies on the relation between language and ethnic/cultural identity, language and sexual identity/gender, as well as on forms of language variation derived from instances of contamination/hybridization of different genres, discursive practices and text types.