

2nd NEOLAIa International Conference on Narrating (Hi)Stories in Decentring Europe

Call for Papers

Plurilingual Futures: Voices, Practices, and Reimagining Europe

University of Nicosia, 24-25 September 2026 (on site)

The 2nd NEOLAIa International Conference on Narrating (Hi)Stories in Decentring Europe is an interdisciplinary conference jointly organised by partner universities of the Alliance of European Universities NEOLAIa. Bringing together scholars from across disciplines, it will explore how plurilingual practices, voices, and modes of mediation shape new ways of producing meaning, authority, and knowledge, reinterpreting the concept of Europe through transcultural, counter-hegemonic, and counter-factual perspectives across languages, media, and disciplines.

We welcome empirically grounded, theoretically informed, and practice-based contributions that explore how plurilingualism is lived, negotiated, and mobilised in social, cultural, educational, historical, and narrative contexts across Europe and beyond. We invite papers that examine storytelling, translation, education, memory, and meaning-making across languages and media, with particular attention to perspectives that challenge dominant narratives and foreground alternative or marginalised voices. Contributions engaging with digital technologies and artificial intelligence in these contexts are especially encouraged.

The topics under examination are, among others:

Plurilingualism, Knowledge, and Power

- Plurilingual practices as historical, contemporary, and future-oriented epistemic and ethical interventions in research, culture, and education
- Boundary-crossing, transcultural, and decolonial perspectives on hegemony, migration, and linguistic inequality
- Reimagining Europe through counter-knowledge, alternative historiographies, and world-making

Narratives, Memory, and Mediation

- History and fiction as sites for reworking hegemonic and subaltern narratives in plurilingual contexts
- Oral narratives, embodied storytelling, trauma, and narrative practices across languages
- Discursive boundaries, hybrid forms, and meaning-making in post-truth and post-factual societies
- Material and literary histories in dialogue with emerging plurilingual practices
- Digital archives, oral histories, and AI-assisted memory work and historical representation
- Speculative futures: imagining Europe and the world
- Storytelling, narrative agency, and world-making

AI, Language, and Authority

- AI and the (re)production of linguistic authority and epistemic legitimacy
- Plurilingualism, bias, and linguistic hierarchies in AI systems
- AI as a narrative agent: authorship, voice, and ethical issues

English, Education, and Academic Futures

- English in European higher education and its negotiation within multilingual and sociolinguistic ecologies
- Plurilingual pedagogies and assessment practices in academic contexts in higher education
- Academic writing, pedagogy, and AI in multilingual classrooms

Translation, translanguaging, and mediation as scholarly, cultural, and political practices

- Translation and self-translation as scholarly, cultural, and political practice
- Translation, translanguaging, and hybrid cross-linguistic mediation
- AI-assisted writing and plurilingual research practices
- Human-machine co-authorship: ethics, credit, and creativity
- Attribution, accountability, and responsibility in twenty-first century authorship

Contributions are invited from (but not limited to) literary and comparative literature studies, literary theory, sociolinguistics and plurilingualism research, translation and discourse studies, cultural and memory studies, history and oral history, migration and diaspora studies, media and digital humanities, language education and higher education studies, political science, and philosophy.

We invite **200-word abstracts** with **4-6 keywords** for **20-minute paper presentations** (+10 minutes for discussion) in one of the conference languages (English, Spanish, or French). Abstracts, together with **a short biographical note** (60-70 words, including your name, institutional affiliation, and e-mail address), must be sent as an email attachment to: **artemis.r@unic.ac.cy**

Further information will be available at: <https://neolaiacampus.eu/narrating-histories-in-decentering-europe/>

The deadline for abstract submissions is 13 April 2026.

Important dates:

- Abstract submissions: March 2 – April 13
- Acceptance announcement: April 24
- Early bird registration: April 25 - July 17
- Late registration: July 18 - September 15

Conference fees:

- Undergraduate students and unemployed: Free
- NEOLAIa graduate and PhD students: Free
- Non-NEOLAIa graduate and PhD students: 30€
- NEOLAIa researchers: 60€
- Non-NEOLAIa researchers: 80€