

Project Proposal NWO Internationalization in the Humanities scheme

1. Project information

Super-diversity: uncovering the nexus between complexity-in-action and language

2. Abstract

Super-diversity is increasingly recognized as the new phenomenology of what previously was identified as the 'multiculturalism' paradigm and then moved on to be the 'diversity' paradigm both of which were supported by a strong Fishmanian tradition that led to a sociolinguistics of distribution. Language, in its verbal, written and multimodal reifications appears to be an extremely sensitive tool here for catching the dynamics of super-diversity, i.e., for unravelling the complexities that characterize the verbal, written and multimodal actions that people come to grapple with in (urban) centres and (rural) peripheries in both online and offline environments where their daily lives interactions unfold. This project intends therefore to cover precisely that very ground, that is, to provide theoretical and methodological understanding and innovations in the field of sociolinguistics and, through that, to contribute significantly to the development of a mature social-scientific study of super-diversity through the re-appreciation of previously validated socio-linguistic concepts and through the re-appreciation of data that have been collected in several partners' projects that touch upon daily language encounters in online and offline environments.

3. Main applicant

Prof. Dr. Jan Blommaert

4. Institutional setting

Globalization affects the nature and structure of contemporary societies in fundamental ways think for instance of the increased mobility of people, the digitalization processes that take place in their lives, and the re-evaluation of the term diaspora because of digitalization. Against this background, current scientific models and key (sociolinguistic) concepts used for the understanding of societal complexity through language interactions need to be critically questioned as to their adequacy to address such complexity so to avoid the risk of using an anachronistic lens (see Blommaert & Rampton 2011). **The applicant**, who is the **research leader of the Language and Globalization program of the Dept. of Culture Studies** as well as the **Director of Babylon – Centre for the Studies of Superdiversity** both located at the **School of Humanities of Tilburg University**, attempts to question the validity of theoretical and methodological instruments so far used for studying the nexus between the complexity embedded in people's daily actions and adopts the theoretical lens of the total linguistic interactions (Silverstein 1997). That is, he tries to re-evaluate and advance the understanding of the intermingling of factors (cultural, ideological and semiotic) at play in the identificational

transactions that people carry out daily in current (urban) centres and (rural) peripheries. He thus takes specific directions in this exercise through:

a) a focus on interdisciplinary and collective research efforts in an attempt to explore the limits of the current sociolinguistic disciplinary frameworks;

b) a focus on a broad range of research topics and areas in sociolinguistics, covering issues that occur in strictly seen (urban) centres and (rural) peripheries but which may be connected because of global digitalisation

c) the construction of a sound empirical basis for comparative sociolinguistic exercises and subsequent theoretical generalization;

It achieves **a)**, **b)** and **c)** through:

d) a paradigmatic re-orientation of sociolinguistics towards super-diversity, complexity and digitalisation, with an immediate contact with partners in the field.

The mission of the team attached to this program is therefore to provide groundbreaking, innovative and socially relevant work. In view of that, we feel that there is an urgent need to consolidate our domestic research base; to expand and strengthen the dialogue with internationally networked colleagues both within and outside Europe; to strengthen collaborative work with non-academic partners, to stimulate excellence in output; and to convert vanguard research into top-level research driven modules and outreach programs for the next generation of social scientists.

The group does not seek to position itself only in the national research environment with regard to its core activities; it positions itself internationally. The reason is that the program is unique within The Netherlands in its composition and perspective. The overall structure of the program is connected to an international network of scholars, that all participate to this internationalization call, gathered under the acronym of **InCoLaS (International Consortium on Language and Super-Diversity)**. This consortium gathers the strongest and most advanced research groups internationally around the theme of superdiversity.

5. Grant Period

Starting date 1/9/2014, ending date 30/08/2017 (3 years)

6. Resubmitted Proposal

Submitted in 2013, Dossier nr: IG-13-26, Super-diversity: uncovering the nexus between complexity-in-action and language.

7. Continuation of a 'start-up' project

No.

8. Foreign and Dutch research groups and participants

Partner 1: Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity

The MPI-MMG Göttingen is dedicated to the multi-disciplinary study of diversity in historical and contemporary societies, particularly concerning ethnic and religious forms and dynamics. The Institute departments are multi-disciplinary, with researchers trained in anthropology, sociology, sociolinguistics, geography, social psychology, political science, religious studies, theology and architecture. Since 2010 the **MPG-MMG** accommodates the **Working Group on Sociolinguistic Diversity** which is also known as the **InCoLaS** of which many of the project participants and partners are members. **The role of the MPI-MMG representatives in this call has to do with superdiversity, globalized deaf sign languages, and African diaspora.**

Profile of Partner Representatives:

David Parkin is Emeritus Professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Oxford. Earlier research on urban multilingualism and code-switching preceded the current concern with polylinguaging and crossover talk, alongside a continuing interest in cross-cultural semantics (multi-modal semiosis). He writes and publishes on: language use and social change: on conversations as transactions, as bases of group formation, and as defining personhood; on semantic anthropology; language purity and impurity; trust talk; and language and superdiversity. He is InCoLaS group head, together with the main applicant Prof. Jan Blommaert (Tilburg University).

Annelies Kusters is a researcher at the Max Planck Institute for the Study of Religious and Ethnic Diversity, with specializations in Social and Cultural Anthropology and Deaf Studies, and with research experience in India, Ghana and Surinam. Currently, she investigates the use of gesture between deaf and hearing strangers and acquaintances in public and parochial space in Mumbai (such as markets, shops, streets, food joints, public transport), she then examines the discourse range of gestural communication, their limitations and potential are investigated, in relation to the places where the interactions happen. She is an InCoLaS steering committee member.

Partner 2: King's College, University of London

The King's College Centre for Language Discourse & Communication. Established in 2006, LDC conducts research on the dynamics of language & literacy within globalisation & intercultural contact. It was top-rated in 2008 UK Research Assessment Exercise, and in the last 5 years, it has hosted 11 funded projects, incl. 6 funded by ESRC, 2 Leverhulme & 3 UK Government. **The role of the King's representatives in this call has to do with superdiversity and emergent forms of urban language and literacies production.**

Profile of Partner Representatives:

Ben Rampton is Professor of Applied & Sociolinguistics, Director of the LDC; Director of King's ESRC Interdisciplinary Social Science Doctoral Training Centre. He is Doctor Honoris Causa (Copenhagen); Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences. His research foci: Sociolinguistics & linguistic anthropology: urban multilingualism, youth, ethnicity & social class; Research methodology: interactional discourse analysis, linguistic ethnography; Language education: schooling & popular culture; classroom discourse. Publications: *Crossing: Language & Ethnicity among Adolescents* (1995); *Language in Late Modernity* (2006). Spec. issues w/ Blommaert *et al*: *Critique of Anthropology* (21/1, 21/2, 2001), *Pragmatics* (13/1, 2003), *Diversities* (13/2, 13/3, 2011), etc. Funded projects: *Crossing Languages & Borders* (Leverhulme w/ Charalambous & Harris 2012-15); *Dialect Development & Style in a Diaspora Community* (ESRC w/ Harris *et al* 2008-10); *Ethnography, Language & Communication* (ESRC w/ Blommaert *et al* 2007-10). *Urban Classroom Culture & Interaction* (ESRC w/ Harris, Georgakopoulou, Leung *et al* (2005-8)). He is an InCoLaS Steering Committee member.

Roxy Harris is Senior Lecturer in Language in Education. Research foci: New ethnicities & language practices; Multiethnic/Multilingual youth & urban schools; Creole language & education; Linking sociolinguistics, sociology & cultural studies. Projects: *Urban Classroom Culture & Communication* (w/ Rampton *et al* 2009-10). Major publications: (a) academic: *New Ethnicities & Language Use* (2006); *The Language, Ethnicity & Race Reader* (2003, coed. w/ Rampton); (b) professional development: *Urban Classroom Culture* (2011, w/ Rampton, Lefstein, Leung); *Language & Power* (1990, w/ Savitzky); *My Personal Language History* (1999). He is an InCoLaS Steering Committee member.

Partner 3: Jyväskylä University

The Jyväskylä University team is made up by members of the Dept. of Languages which has a strong research team focused on super-diversity and social media with a specific focus on the currently running *Language and super-diversity: (Dis)identification in social media* (Finnish Academy 2012–16). The department has done extensive work in the fields of sociolinguistic, discourse studies and ethnographic perspectives on literacy practices, social action & interaction in linguistically diverse, mediated everyday environments, and on language policies & informal language policing. **The role of the Jyväskylä University representatives in this call has to do with superdiversity, social media and forms of (dis)identification.**

Profile of Partner Representatives:

Sirpa Leppänen is Prof. of English in the Dept. of Languages. She has directed several major research ventures. These include the study of the uses of and attitudes to English in globalized Finnish society (part of the Centre of Excellence on Variation, Change and Contacts of English, 2006-2011), the Finland Distinguished Professor project *Multilingualism as a problematic resource*, with the main applicant Prof. Jan Blommaert being Finland Distinguished Professor (2007-2010) and the sociolinguistic ethnographic study *Language and super-diversity: (Dis)identification in social media* (Finnish Academy 2012–16). She has published widely on how in social media activities participants use resources provided by language/s and other semiotic modes of identification. She is an InCoLaS Steering Committee member.

Samu Kytölä is a post-doctoral researcher at the Dept. of Languages. He has published widely on multicultural and multilingual 2.0 soccer discourses, sociolinguistic diversity in Finland, attitudes to non-native and non-standard language use, and the ethnography of internet writing. His PhD has explored multilingual language use in ways of football writing online. At Jyväskylä, he is deputy director of the project *Language and super-diversity: (Dis)identification in social media* (Finnish Academy 2012–16).

Partner 4: University of Copenhagen

The UCPH team is located within the Department of Scandinavian Studies and Linguistics. The team has conducted the longitudinal Amager project, The specific participants are among the top national scholars on the issue of linguistic minorities in Denmark and they have worked closely with Tilburg and the InCoLaS network from its very beginning (2010). The Amager project is key here, in that it consists of extensive collaborative empirical work in a culturally and linguistically diverse urban school in former traditional working class area. Closely associated with this, there is the Mother Tongue Education project focusing on so-called mother tongue classes for minority students. **The role of Copenhagen University representatives in this call has to do with superdiversity, polylinguaging and longitudinal ethnographic studies.**

Profile of Partner Representatives:

Lian Malai Madsen, Associate Professor, Dep. of Scandinavian Studies and Linguistics. PhD (2008) on a study in a martial arts club. Postdoc. research (2009-2012) on linguistic and social practices in school and leisure contexts among youth. Main research interests: linguistic diversity, social positioning among youth in multicultural urban settings, stylization, peer-cultural activities in relation to language use, socialization and education. Publications in *Int Journal of Multilingualism, Linguistics and Education* and *Language in Society* and in international edited volumes on sports, integration & societal cohesion and European urban youth language. Forthcoming book with *Multilingual Matters*. Member of the steering committee of Linguistic Ethnography Forum. She is an InCoLaS Steering Committee member.

Martha Sif Karrebæk, Associate Professor, Dep. of Scandinavian Studies and Linguistics. PhD (2009) on language socialization and (second) language acquisition in pre-school. Postdoc. research (2009-12) on language socialization among school-starters. Leading a project on mother tongue education financed by elite grant *Sapere aude* from the Danish Independent Research Council. Publications in *Int Journal of Bilingualism, Journal of Pragmatics, Journal of Sociolinguistics, Journal of Linguistic Anthropology, Food, Culture and Society, Language & Communication* etc. Prizes and awards: The Ton Vallen Award (2013), Einar Hansen Forskningsfond research grant (2012), the Young Elite Researcher prize (2010) from the Danish Independent Research Council. She is an InCoLaS Steering Committee member.

Partner 5: University of Birmingham

The IRiS Centre at the University of Birmingham has been created to provide a forum for the development of new, interdisciplinary lines of enquiry related to superdiversity and policy making (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/research/activity/superdiversity-institute/index.aspx>). Members of the IRiS Centre have been at the forefront of the development of these fields of research in the UK and internationally, through their empirical work and through their contributions to theory building, and they have been particularly successful in attracting funding

from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). Centre members are engaged in research which draws on different, inter-related strands of critical, social linguistics and on social theory, including linguistic ethnography, critical discourse analysis, new literacy studies and multimodal social semiotics. **The role of Birmingham University representatives in this call has to do with superdiversity, forms of institutional normativity and translation in policing immigrant minority language teaching.**

Profile of partner representatives:

Angela Creese is Professor of Educational Linguistics in the Department Language, Discourse and Society, at the School of Education, and Deputy Director of the Mosaic Centre for Research on Multilingualism, both at Birmingham University. Her research cuts across anthropology, linguistics and education. Creese is associate editor of the US based journal *Anthropology and Education Quarterly*. She has published five books and numerous journal articles and book chapters. Since 2001, Angela has been awarded seven substantial research grants, 4 of which are funded by the ESRC. She has been the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Education Alumni Association Helen C. Bailey Award winner in 2010 for outstanding research in educational linguistics. She is the director of a large national and international team which has received funding from AHRC to investigate how people communicate multilingually across diverse languages, cultures and institutional settings. Please view the [Translation and Translanguaging](#) website to find out more. She is an InCoLaS Steering Committee member.

Adrian Blackledge is Director of the [MOSAIC Centre for Research on Multilingualism](#). He is author of numerous articles and books based on his research on multilingualism in education and wider society. His books include *Heteroglossia as Practice and Pedagogy* (2014); *The Routledge Handbook of Multilingualism* (2012); *Multilingualism: A Critical Perspective* (2010); *Discourse and Power in a Multilingual World* (2005); *Negotiation of Identities in Multilingual Contexts* (2004). In recent years Adrian has been awarded more than £3 million in research council funding. He is currently engaged in a project funded through the AHRC *Translating Cultures* theme, 'Translation and Translanguaging: Investigating Linguistic and Cultural Transformations in Superdiverse Wards in Four UK Cities' (Principal Investigator: Professor Angela Creese - see the [Translation and Translanguaging](#)). He is an InCoLaS Steering Committee member.

Partner 6: Catholic University of Leuven

IMMRC (Interculturalism, Migration and Minorities Research Centre) at KULeuven conducts state-of-the-art anthropological analyses of topics related to mobility, minorities, and diversity. It focuses on tangible and intangible relations, on creative transnational processes and the dynamics of inclusion and exclusion within an overall context of the diversification of diversity. Through in-depth ethnographic study, the researchers disentangle the complex relations and their global (dis)connections, with special attention for minorities and less visible community building. The various research projects focus on the following issues: (new) migrations, internal boundary creation, blurring of boundaries, and cross-cultural exchange and distribution. Some research focuses on the intersection between disability and ethnic minorities. The Mediterranean, Africa, and Asia are geographical areas of interest. **The role of the Catholic**

University of Leuven representative in this call has to do with superdiversity and its discourse, youth movements and new democracies.

Profile of partner representatives:

Karel Arnaut is Professor of anthropology at the Interculturalism, Migration and Minorities Research Centre (IMMRC), Faculty of Social Sciences at Leuven University (KULeuven). Prior to joining the KULeuven, Karel Arnaut was a Research Fellow at MMG where he coordinated the Socio-Linguistic Diversity working group and pursued his own research on aspects of sociolinguistic superdiversity in city-based transactions between Africa and Europe, more particularly Cape Town, Abidjan and Brussels. The main focus of his previous work (while at Ghent University, Belgium) was student and youth movements, political and cultural participation, and the translocal restructuring of public spaces and the postcolonial dynamics in the area of diasporic identity-formation and activism in urban contexts in Europe and Africa.

9. Short project description (Word count: 1491 words)

9A) Aim

This project sets itself in the middle of an exercise that sees as its focal point the upgrading of the conceptual apparatus set up around the concept of superdiversity (Blommaert & Rampton 2011; Arnaut 2012; Arnaut & Spotti 2014). It takes language and the total linguistic fact (Silverstein 1997) as its focus. Super-diversity is an emergent paradigm in the study of socialization and migration; it has become the focus of the Max Planck Institute on Religious and Ethnic Diversity in Göttingen, and it was the topic of an ESF Exploratory Workshop (“The Effects of Super-Diversity in Europe”, EW08-349, conv. Jan Blommaert, Steven Vertovec, Paul De Guchteneire) in Tilburg, October 2009. The workshop, back then, made clear that little attention has been given to (socio)linguistic super-diversity, while language appears to be an extremely sensitive tool for catching the dynamics of super-diversity, i.e., for catching the dynamics of complexity that characterize the verbal, written and pictorial semiotic exchanges that people come to grapple with in urban and non-urban settings in both online and offline contexts of interaction.

This project intends therefore to cover precisely that ground, that is, to provide theoretical and methodological innovations in the field of language, societal complexity and superdiversity. In doing so it contributes significantly to the development of a mature social-scientific study of super-diversity through the re-appreciation of data that have been collected in several projects run by the partners that touch upon daily encounters in online and offline environments that are linked to both formal and informal learning:

HERA project <http://www.heranet.info/idi4mes/index> (Birmingham & Tilburg); SuperMOTE project <http://inss.ku.dk/english/research/projects/supermote> (Copenhagen); Language and Super-Diversity (Dis)identification in Social Media project [http:// www.socialmediadiscourses.fi](http://www.socialmediadiscourses.fi) (Jyväskylä) and more recently [Translation and Translanguaging](#) (Birmingham & Tilburg).

9B) Feasibility

The Tilburg team is the leading partner of this application. It has contributed in founding the superdiversity paradigm and developing its initial conceptual, theoretical and methodological tools, drawing on its own long tradition of addressing societal multilingualisms as well as on firm contacts into interdisciplinary networks focusing on the anthropological, historical, sociological and social-psychological aspects of work on superdiversity.

The Tilburg team counts on its significant in-house critical mass consisting of prominent senior and junior researchers as well as PhD and post-doctoral fellows. Tilburg members have been involved as co-organizers and as members of the InCoLaS scientific committee both in the first International Conference on Language and Super-Diversity (Jyväskylä, 5-7 June 2013) and it is also currently involved in major publication projects of the consortium (see Arnaut, K. Spotti, M. & M. Karrenbaek (*forthcoming*) *Language & Super-diversity: exploring the sociolinguistics of interstices*. Clevedon: Multilingual Matters).

9C) Relevance and coherence, output

Super-diversity is increasingly recognized as the new phenomenology of what previously was identified as 'multiculturalism'. The city of Ghent (Belgium) and the city of Amsterdam, to name only a couple, have taken on board in their migration and integration policies 'super-diversity policies', and super-diversity now occurs as a catchword in vulgarizing texts and news reports. Academically, the paradigm has acquired a firm footing across disciplines, as well as in the field of societal valorization. Relevance to understanding the complexity of contemporary societies is therefore guaranteed. The leading position of the Tilburg team in the development of the super-diversity paradigm rests on an intensive dialogue and exchange with research in other disciplines coalescing around the Max Planck Center for Religious and Ethnic Diversity, where Jan Blommaert is senior research partner and a co-leader of the Max Planck Sociolinguistic Diversity Research Group (<http://www.mmg.mpg.de/subsites/sociolinguistic-diversities/about>). Coherence between the proposed project and ongoing research in InCoLaS is guaranteed through these channels. The output of this project will comprise both high-profile academic publications, certain of drawing the attention of the scholarly community, as well as new methods for applied work and research, such as training programs and texts aimed at practitioners, both of which work toward a coherent Horizon 2020 application with a high impact rate.

9D) Importance and added value

The proposal is anchored in European countries that have witnessed, over the past two decades, a transition from ethnic diversity paradigm to super-diversity, that is, the diversification of diversity. In each of these countries, the dominant policy paradigm is still that of (pre-super-diversity) ethnic minorities, though in each of these countries there is a growing awareness of the irrelevance of that paradigm. The setting up of a database which allows to access data collected in the past decade during the development of the post-diversity paradigm allows to look at these data both synchronically and diachronically which in turn implies also a methodological re-evaluation of ethnography that becomes a nexus ethnography (Blommaert & Huang 2009) where complexity in human actions is understood as a chronotope (Silverstein 2005), that is human actions are understood in relation to a frame that takes into account both time and space. In so doing, the group gains the chance to re-appreciate data that can be testimony of super-diversity in the making against a historical and ideological frame across socio-cultural spaces. To take stock and further the understanding of the nexus between complexity-in-action and language, we have planned the following four meetings:

Meeting 1: "Superdiversity: spaces of learning". We start from the understanding of sociocultural spaces as spaces for 'learning' where no one enters with having fully mastered the skills that are required in there. These learning processes are observable in offline and online environments and in fine-grained interactional research where 'first time' moments of learning materialize in interactions. InCoLaS data contain and continuously develop a massive amount of these moment-to-moment interactions that document both fleeting as well as sustained encounters, leading to learn how to do conviviality and conflict both (see Goebel 2013; Rampton 2012).

Meeting 2: "Superdiversity: (un)scripted normativities in dynamic social changes". Building on Meeting 1 and on previous ethnographic work on monologic and dialogic spaces (Blommaert, Slembrouck & Collins 2005; Jorgensen *et al.* 2011), we take stock of the knowledge gained that people enter places where scripts of conduct are not formed while at other times they enter rigidly scripted places where they should follow norms and match expectations with their doings (cf. Backus & Spotti 2012; Karrebaek 2013). Examples are to be found in a) extremely multilingual urban and marginal environments (see Wang *et al.* 2014); b) online application as for instance mass online gaming (Lappanen *et al.* 2012) where thousands of random participants continuously negotiate participation roles and develop codes of conduct for the game.

Meeting 3: "Superdiversity: doing and being an authentic expert". In both environments dealt with in meeting one and two, we see that the complex norm building processes and negotiations taking place in there are never symmetrical. Rather, we see fast emerging hierarchies of belonging where 'chiefs' and 'followers', in other words, where experts and novice emerge. These hierarchies are crystallization of norms, but why one is elected to norm rather than another and the basis on which these stratification processes are built still calls for empirically driven theory building.

Meeting 4: "Superdiversity: re-evaluating (e-) ethnographic epistemology, ontology and method" This meeting is intended to stimulate debates across disciplinary and methodological-traditional boundaries. Such debates, we believe, are necessary for two reasons. One is that of exploring compatibilities and synergies across and beyond the layers of disciplinary structure that determine academic work is at the heart of scientific practice: it is the search for innovation and optimization of research tools and insights. Two is that such exercises are always needed because our objects of research refuse to sit still. As scholars of humans in society and culture, our research instruments demand perpetual reality checks, because humans in society and culture change perpetually, and methods for understanding social and cultural processes that were adequate yesterday are not guaranteed to be adequate tomorrow.

The four meetings represent four respective moments of synthesis and of furthering the efforts of the network.

9E) Scientific and scholarly quality of the research groups

This group is a genuine European platform for advanced research in this field, and lays the foundations for furthering a strong and prominent European node in an emerging worldwide network of scholarship on multilingualism in the context of globalization. Although connected to worldwide networks of scholarship in this field, the group forms a recognizable Dutch based European node whose contributions are grounded in the realities of European societies and whose research interventions are considered to be significant and an asset for any Horizon 2020 application in the field of Humanities and Social Sciences. The research that the group carries out is grounded in a unique historical and political reality, as it can reflect on the space between institutional multilingualism and multilingualism-on-the-ground and respond to the specific needs of society at international, national and local levels.

9F) Management of the project

The project is managed by Jan Blommaert Chair of Language, Culture and Globalisation at the Dept. of Culture Studies and Director of Babylon – Centre for Study of Superdiversity both at the Faculty of Humanities at Tilburg University (see applicant's CV).

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10.

Word count and discipline code

1491 words (on a 1500 word limit)

46.90.00 Culturele antropologie

11. Intended results

1. Fully elaborated international research proposal

A fully elaborated application for the Horizon 2020 scheme.

2. A structurally embedded research network

The meetings of the InCoLaS consortium function as the locus to strengthen ties among partner institutions by identifying common themes of interest and by setting up smaller working groups that will be focusing on four areas for the analysis of the data already at the group's disposal. These areas match the areas covered in the four meetings listed under point 9.

3. Forms of joint output

The initiative of a low maintenance, widely accessible database whose management is in Tilburg, and which will first be made available to the InCoLaS core members for then being open to the wider scientific public and the societal partners that collaborate with InCoLaS, embodies the solution to an older preoccupation that has been on the InCoLaS agenda from its very beginning. The research that InCoLaS does which could be summed up under the umbrella term of interpretive ethnographic characterized by deep hanging out in the field, produces great quantities of textual, audio, audio-visual, and social media data with a strong multimodal component. It is part and parcel of an ethnographic approach that a great deal of these naturalistic data does not get the chance to be analyzed and interpreted in either PhD theses or publications. If we take into account that this is endemic to all the ethnographic enquiries carried out by the InCoLaS core members, it is clear these data potential remains either unexplored or not fully exploited while key to the understanding of superdiversity and the nexus between complexity in action and language.

The database contains InCoLaS project based material (see for instance the projects completed or currently being carried out by the Copenhagen, Jyvaskyla, Birmingham and Tilburg teams). The setting up, construction and management of the database emerge from a close co-operation of InCoLaS with the Faculty of Humanities at Tilburg University and its e-humanities lab. With the construction, management, opening and maintenance of the website, InCoLaS hopes also to advance the methodologies that are key to the study of superdiversity, in terms of an ethnographic practice that a) feeds structurally back to its informants, b) informs the operators in the institutions that have been investigated and c) that, through its fine grained nature, informs the recent dialogue with quantitative empirical approaches (see Blommaert & van de Vijver 2013).

This open access database will be low maintenance and in so doing it guarantees to survive also after the project completion. Its by-product will be divulgative e-training modules on superdiversity in the four areas mentioned above. These e-training modules will be free for access and

directed to non-academic partners who work in the field of super-diversity, education and marginalization.

Furthermore, other forms of joint output are papers for peer-reviewed scientific journals which will also gain outreach possibilities through the two working papers series already present in the consortium Working Papers In Urban Language and Literacies (WPULL)

<http://www.kcl.ac.uk/innovation/groups/ldc/publications/workingpapers/download>

and Tilburg Papers in Cultural Studies (TPCS)

<http://www.tilburguniversity.edu/research/institutes-and-research-groups/babylon/tpcs>

12. Short CV of main applicant (max. 1 page)

Prof. Dr. Jan Blommaert

CAREER

- March 1988 - September 1991: Assistant professor, Seminar of Swahili and the Language Problems of Developing Nations, Ghent University.
- October 1991 - September 1997: Senior Researcher, University of Antwerp (Universitaire Instelling Antwerpen, UIA), Department of Germanic Languages and Literature; Research Director, International Pragmatics Association Research Center, University of Antwerp.
- October 1997 - 2005: professor of African linguistics and sociolinguistics, Department of African Languages and Cultures, Ghent University.
- October 2005 – present: part-time professor of African linguistics and sociolinguistics, Department of African Languages and Cultures, Ghent University.
- September 2005 – December 2007: Professor and Chair of Languages in Education, Institute of Education, University of London. Deputy Head of School (Research and Consultancy), School of Culture, Language and Communication.
- October 2007-present: Distinguished Professor of Language, Culture and Globalization, Tilburg University
- January 2009 – present: Director, Babylon Center, Tilburg University.

ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

- Head of Department, African Languages and Cultures, Ghent University, 1997- 2004
- Program Director, program in African Languages and Cultures, Ghent University, 1998-2002.
- Member of the Faculty Council, Faculty of Arts, Ghent University, 2001-2004.
- Member of the Dean's Council, Faculty of Arts 1997-2004. Member of various faculty committees (programs, appointments budget and planning).
- Deputy Head (Research and Consultancy), School of Culture, Language and Communication, Institute of Education, University of London, December 2005-September 2007.
- Member of the International Conference Committee, *2nd IATIS Conference*, Cape Town July 2006.
- Convenor, ESF Exploratory Workshop 'The effects of Superdiversity in Europe', Tilburg University, October 2009.
- Member of the expert group on racism and xenophobia, European Monitoring Center for Racism and Xenophobia (European Union, Vienna), 2002-2003.
- Chairman, National Advisory Council on Language, Ministry of Justice (The Netherlands), 2010-present.
- Coordinator of the international scientific network on 'Language, Power and Identity', funded by the Flemish National Science Foundation, 1999-2003.
- Coordinator of the Inter-University Development Cooperation program between VLIR (Flemish Inter-University Council, Flemish Government) and University of the Western Cape, Cape Town (South Africa), 2003 - 2008

PUBLIC ACTIVITIES

- Numerous public lectures and debates for the general public in Belgium on immigration, asylum problems, racism, political discourse.
- Numerous media appearances and author of a number of opinion articles and columns in Belgian and Dutch newspapers as well as in political journals.

13. Project budget

Meetings (4 x 5000Eur) 20.000

Exchange costs (12 x 2500Eur) 30.000 (*) ()**

Material 7.500

Secondment grant 12.500

(12 months 0.25 fte. Scale 11.0)

Publications (2 x 2500Eur) 5.000

Total applied for 75.000

Matching 25% 18.750

(6 partners x 3125)

Max. NWO Grant (75%) 56.250

(*) the 30.000 Euros take into account 12 exchanges (flight and accommodation are covered) amongst which we have budgeted 4 exchanges coming from scientists from the US, these being Michael Silverstein (University of Chicago), Zane Goebel (La Trobe University), Robert Moore (UPenn) and Marco Jacquement (University of San Francisco).

(**) The remaining 20.000 Euros are used for the exchange of 8 PhD and post-doctoral fellows across the institutions that are part of this application.