



VYTAUTAS
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Faculty of
Humanities



VYTAUTAS
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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, S. Daukanto g. 28, Kaunas

PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER 2025

8.30-15.00	Onsite Registration (Hallway at the entrance of the Senate Hall, 2 nd floor)
9.00-9.30	Conference Opening Senate Hall Senato salė
9.30-10.00	Paying Tribute to Professor Lawrence Solan and Celebrating the Conference Anniversary (Senate Hall) Special address: Dieter Stein Memorial talk: Liao Meizhen (Central China Normal University of Wuhan) Plenary Talk Ralf Poscher (Max Planck Institute for the Study of Crime, Security and Law) <i>Externalism or Internalism in Legislative Intent. Which Fiction to Believe?</i> Chair: Dieter Stein
10.00-11.00	

11.15-13.45	Room 306 Communicating Legal Knowledge Across Media: Multimodal and Traditional Legal Texts I/2 Chairs: Jan Engberg, Karin Luttermann	Room 102 Approaches to Legal Argumentation and Interpretation I/2 Chairs: Stanisław Goźdz-Roszkowski, Iwona Witczak-Plisiecka	Room 405 Linguistic Meaning in Legal Interpretation I/2 Chairs: Cleo Condoravdi, Brandon Waldon, Dieter Stein	Senate Hall Philosophy of Law I/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, Brandon Waldon <i>Linguist as language guide: 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>	Jekaterina Nikitina <i>“It should not be mistaken for carte blanche to rubber-stamp any policy”: metaphors for legal reasoning</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>	Iwona Witczak-Plisiecka <i>Readdressing the usefulness of a speech act-theoretic approach to legal problems</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 to raise awareness and mobilise action</i>		Elizabeth Coppock, Jill Anderson <i>The square of litigation</i>	Karolina Śliwiecka, Wojciech Ciszewski, Maciej Próchnicki <i>When yes does not mean yes - the folk understanding of sexual coercion</i>
	Lunch break (Room 203)			
13.45 -15.00	Plenary Talk (Senate Hall) Rosanna Sornicola (University of Naples “Federico II”) “In hoc tempore barbarico”. Language and Law in the Crisis of the Roman World Chair: Paolo Greco			
15.00-16.00				

16.0-16.30	Coffee break (Room 203)			
16.30-19.00	Room 306 Communicating Legal Knowledge Across Media: Multimodal and Traditional Legal Texts 2/2 Chairs: Jan Engberg, Karin Luttermann	Room 102 Language and Power in the Courtroom 1/3 Chairs: Magdalena Szczyrbak, Jacqueline Visconti	Room 405 Linguistic Meaning in Legal Interpretation 2/2 Chairs: Cleo Condoravdi, Brandon Waldon, Dieter Stein	Senate Hall Philosophy of Law 2/4 Chairs: Tomasz Gizbert-Studnicki, Adam Dyrda, Paweł 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>	Jennifer Smolka <i>Legal interpretation of conjunction and disjunction: Cumulative and/or alternative</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>	Jill Anderson <i>"Any" questions – lexical vagueness and structural ambiguity in legal interpretation</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>	Arthur Joyeux <i>The expression of vagueness in legal discourse and the role of the intersective adjectives</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>	Paulina Nowak-Korcz <i>On Rhetorical Strategies in Closing Speeches for the Defence in French Criminal Proceedings</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>
	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>		Kevin Müller, Annette Zoller-Eckenstein <i>Terminology of circular construction</i>	

20.00-

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

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!**

**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! 😊

THURSDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2025

9.00-15.00	Onsite Registration (Hallway next to the Senate Hall)			
9.00-10.00	Plenary Talk (Senate Hall) Eleonora Esposito (University of Navarra) Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence: Analysing Language, Rethinking Law, Tackling Harm Chair: Victoria Guillén-Nieto			
10.15-12.45	Room 405 Historical (Socio)linguistics and Legal Documentation I/I Chair: Paolo Greco	Room 102 Approaches to Legal Argumentation and Interpretation 2/2 Chairs: Stanisław Goźdz-Roszkowski (University of Lodz), Iwona Witczak-Plisiecka	Room 306 Language of Prejudice, Discrimination and Violence I/I Chair: Victoria Guillén-Nieto	Senate Hall 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>
	Rolf Kailuweit <i>Down by law? Co-officiality of the Corsican language</i>	Manon Bouyé, Margaux Guillerit <i>Improving the comprehension of judicial argumentation using generative AI: A comparison of ChatGPT's performance on written and oral Supreme Court genres</i>	Victoria Guillén-Nieto <i>'MENA' and its negative lexicalisation in Spanish far-right anti-immigration discourse</i>	Pedro Moniz Lopes <i>A linguistic account of action specificity - a stepping stone for legal theory and jurisprudence</i>
	Fabio Aprea <i>Heuristic possibilities offered by the MEDITA database for the study of the medieval Latin statutory lexicon of central Italy</i>	Mikołaj Ryśkiewicz <i>Empirical analysis of semantic shifts in judicial opinions: A corpus-based approach</i>	Marek Uszyński <i>Between Language and Politics: a new approach to the study of figleaves</i>	Wojciech Graboń <i>Law, idealization, and objectual understanding: On some assumptions about the representational capacity of legal concepts</i>

	Dorottya Pálfi <i>Demonstrative usage in the charters of Lucca — Order from chaos?</i>		Gintarė Herasimenkienė <i>Revealing the speaker's intention through text analysis: Examples from ECtHR cases</i>	
12.45-13.45	Lunch break (Room 203)			
13.45-14.45	Room 306 European Legal Culture and Multilingualism 1/2 Chair: Anne Lise Kjær	Room 102 Language and Power in the Courtroom 2/3 Chairs: Magdalena Szczyrbak, Jacqueline Visconti	Senate Hall Philosophy of Law 4/4 Chairs: Tomasz Gizbert-Studnicki, Adam Dyrda, Paweł Banas	
	Dariusz Koźbiał <i>Exploring formulaicity in judicial English and Polish Eurolects: A corpus-based analysis of grammar patterns in translated and non-translated language</i>	Giulia Lombardi <i>Punctuation and persuasion in lawyers' pleadings and written testimonies</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>	Rebecca Jenkins, Nuria Lorenzo-Dus <i>"Maybe we start by just a show of hands": A genre-based linguistic analysis of jury deliberation and interpretation of judicial directions</i>	Maciej Macuga <i>The relation between vaccine passports and mandatory vaccination: public health ethics perspective</i>	
14.45-15.45	Rita Juknevičienė <i>Translating court rulings from Lithuanian into English: rendering grammatically encoded necessity</i>	Miguel Angel Campos-Pardillos <i>Fighting lawlessness and mob rule: Examining power, racism, and social order in judges' sentencing remarks</i>	Krystyna Mokrzycka <i>Transitional justice as a possible new vector of therapeutic jurisprudence – an explorative study</i>	
	Inesa Šeškauskienė <i>Metaphor or non-metaphor? Translating the Handbook on European Non-discrimination Law from English to Lithuanian</i>			
15.45-16.15	Coffee break (Room 203)			
16.15-17.15	Plenary Talk (Senate Hall) Christoph Hafner (City University of Hong Kong) & Rodney Jones (University of Reading) Generative AI and the Future of Legal Education Chair: Magdalena Szczyrbak			
17.20-17.50	ILLA GENERAL ASSEMBLY (Senate Hall) Introduction to the ILLA Conference 2027 Nancy Niedzielski and John Baugh (online)			
17.50-18.35	EC MEETING (Senate Hall)			
19.00-	Conference Dinner Restaurant and beer brewery AVILYS* , located in Kaunas Old Town, in the cellars of the 18th century Address: Vilniaus g. 34 *avilys in English means "bee hive"			

FRIDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2025

9.00-10.00	Onsite Registration (Hallway at the entrance of the Senate Hall)		
10.00-11.00	Plenary Talk (Senate Hall) 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 (Room 203)		
11.30-12.30	Room 102 Language and Power in the Courtroom 3/3 Chairs: Magdalena Szczyrbak, Jacqueline Visconti	Room 306 Law, Language and Politics Chair: Frances Olsen	Room 405 Looking for Legislative Intent Chairs: Francesca Poggi, Damiano Canale
	Dana Roemling, Steven Coats <i>A new corpus of investigative interviews and criminal justice content</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, Aušrinė Pasvenskienė, Paulius Astromskis <i>The power of large language models in proving Lithuanian hate speech in the courtroom</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>
12.30-13.30	European Legal Culture and Multilingualism 2/2 Chair: Anne Lise Kjær Edward Clay <i>The impact of Brexit on the legal language of the EU</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>
	Rasa Volungevičienė <i>Concept of fraud at the crossroads of multilingualism and harmonisation of EU criminal law</i>	Barbora Tomečková <i>Distinguishing the constitutional and national identity: Case of official languages</i>	Pernille Kloster <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>	
13.30-14.00	Conference Closing: Closing Remarks and Acknowledgements (Senate Hall)		
15.00-17.00	City Walking Tour Meeting point – Entrance of V. Putvinskio 23		

