

Foreword

As opposed to the varieties of other languages, Modern Greek dialects are less known among linguists. Nonetheless, they exhibit a number of interesting phenomena due to the fact that many of them have developed -relatively- isolated or in close contact with other dialects and/or languages. Modern Greek dialects offer a plethora of intriguing data which can be used to test working hypotheses about language structure and language use, and can be analyzed in different ways, by appealing to various methods and theories.

The *International Conference on Modern Greek Dialects and Linguistic Theory* (MGDLT) was firstly organized in 2000 in Patras (Greece) in order to respond to the emerging need for the study of Modern Greek Dialects in the light of modern linguistic theories. Its basic aim is to highlight the importance of Modern Greek dialects for linguists working in various fields of linguistics (phonetics & phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, discourse analysis, psycho- or socio-linguistics, historical and contact linguistics). A selection of papers presented in the meetings has been published either online or in hard copy (or in both ways).

As of the proceedings of MGDLT6, this tradition has changed, since papers will be published on an electronic platform. Publications will be open access, so readers will have the opportunity to freely download the papers of their interest and contributors will have direct access to their work.

The present volume is a collection of papers presented at MGDLT6, which was held at the Conference and Cultural Centre at the University of Patras (September 25-28, 2014). The organization of the conference was part of the celebrations for the 50th anniversary of the University of Patras, which is gratefully acknowledged for its generous support.

The papers in this volume reflect various interests of experts working on both linguistics and the dialects of Modern Greek, covering a wide variety of topics. They are arranged alphabetically and contain a far ranging amount of Greek dialectal data, presented during the conference.

We express our gratitude to the invited speakers of MGDLT6 who so promptly responded to its call, namely, Anna Maria Di Sciullo (Université du Québec à Montréal), Yves Charles Morin (Université de Montréal), Kristel Van Goethem (F.R.S.-FNRS & Université catholique de Louvain), Amalia Arvaniti (University of Kent), and Petya Assenova (University of Sofia). We would also like to thank speakers and presenters for their participation.

Gaberell Drachman was also an invited speaker. Unfortunately, he passed away in September 2014, a few days before the conference. MGDLT6 was organised in his honour, as a small tribute to his substantial contribution to theoretical linguistics, Greek linguistics and Modern Greek dialects. In May 2015, his beloved wife, Angeliki Malikouti-Drachman, also died. Therefore, this volume is

dedicated to both Gaberell Drachman and Angeliki Malikouti-Drachman for their invaluable contribution to Greek linguistics.

Last but not least, I am particularly grateful to the members of the Local Organizing Committee, namely, Nikos Koutsoukos, Marios Andreou, Vasiliki Makri, Michalis Marinis, Vasilias Alexelli, Marianna Gkiouleka, Niki Spiliopoulou, Christos Papanagiotou, Katerina Fragkopoulou, and Timon Kardamas, for their help before and during the conference. I would also like to thank Athina Prountzou and Michalis Marinis for their assistance with some papers of this volume.

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