



Newsletter 2021-22

Welcome to our annual Intercultural Research Centre (IRC) newsletter!

The Research Centre

Acting Director, Prof. Chris Tinker c.g.tinker@hw.ac.uk

The Intercultural Research Centre (IRC) addresses key intercultural issues arising from the changing global context. Our research seeks to build understanding and develop appreciation of the experiences and representations of living with, or between, different cultures, identities, communities or languages. To this end, our research is built around three key themes:

Heritage and Sustainability, led by Prof. Ullrich Kockel

Popular culture and inclusion, led by Prof. Chris Tinker

Migration, led by Dr Katerina Strani

Strategy 2020-2025 The strategy of the IRC is aligned with the 5-year research strategy of Heriot-Watt University's School of Social Sciences, which focuses on understanding the institutions and functioning of human society and examining interpersonal and social relationships of individuals as members of society. In line with this, the IRC is developing:

- a joint research programme structured around the above key themes
- collaborative projects, including with research users, as part of this programme
- funding bids specifically geared to building research capacity, including postdoc and PhD studentship funding
- a vibrant culture and connected community of full-time and part-time PGR students
- mentoring and collaborative support structures for research career development
- regular dissemination events, including seminars and workshops, involving research users and wider audiences as appropriate

- publications showcasing research associated with the IRC
- increased collaboration within and outside the university, with a focus on impact
- infrastructure that fosters contributions to the field at national and international levels
- In this newsletter you will find news relating to our events, publications by full and affiliate members, news on conferences and events and updates on our members and activities.

IRC Work in Progress Seminars held in 2021-22

- Ian Baxter, Understanding disruption in heritage and tourism organisations over the past 18 months
- Michelle Liao, Translating an 'anti-British' museum: resemiotization in the Opium War Museum (Joint CTISS/IRC Seminar)
- Yuying Liu, Investigating the changing profile of the Chinese complementary schools
- Lina Fadel and Neruda Barakat, Dialogical Narratives and Healing Encounters: a meta autoethnography of the Syrian displaced mind
- Alastair Mackie and Katerina Strani, Values and Identity: The case of Scotland
- Leri Price Syrian Identity in the UK
- Katerina Strani, Othering and Language: Preliminary thoughts
- Chris Tinker, Media Coverage of 'Gay Icons': Consensus, Division and Beyond
- Graham Turner, The Singularity is Near: The Future of Signed Language in Scotland

IRC Work in Progress Seminars 2022-23

If you would like to give a talk on your current work in Semester 1 or 2, please get in touch with Chris Tinker (C.G.Tinker@hw.ac.uk)

IRC Discussion Group

The IRC Discussion Group (IRCDG) is open to everyone who is interested in topics related to Intercultural Studies. The topics are varied and are selected in consultation with our research students. Preparatory readings are circulated in advance.

The aim of the IRCDG is to foster conversation and knowledge sharing around topical and important issues within intercultural studies with those dealing with these issues from a diverse range of backgrounds and experiences (with a particular focus on our PGR community at the IRC and other RCs in the wider school). In this format we hope to connect the different people working with, involved with and/or interested in Intercultural studies and research at the IRC.

If you are interested in facilitating one of the Discussion Group sessions (or suggesting a text or topic for discussion for 2022-23), please contact our IRC Postgraduate Research Lead Dr Lina Fadel (lina.fadel@hw.ac.uk) directly.

Please note that the Discussion Group is a dynamic forum for exchanging and debating ideas with our PGR community in an informal setting. As such, the introduction by a facilitator is not a formal presentation, but, rather, a prompt to the collective discussion.

Research Publications

Collinson, E. & **Baxter, I.** (2022). Liminality and contemporary engagement: Knockando Wool Mill – a cultural heritage case study, *Journal of Heritage Tourism*, 17:1, 107-123, <https://doi.org/10.1080/1743873X.2020.1828428>

La Porte, P. (2022). El laberinto marroquí, piedra de tropiezo de liberales y autoritarios (1912-1926). *Hispania Nova*, (20), 692-736. <https://doi.org/10.20318/hn.2022.6474>

Strani, K. & Szczepaniak-Kozak, A. (2022). Online Hate Speech in the UK and Poland: A Case-Study of Online Reactions to the Killing of Arkadiusz Jóźwik. In A. Monnier, A. Boursier, & A. Seoane (Eds.), *Cyberhate in the Context of Migrations* (pp. 21-61). (Postdisciplinary Studies in Discourse). Palgrave Macmillan. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-92103-3_2

Strani, K. (2022) "Saved by the App? Why a new app for learning indigenous languages is a critical tool for revitalisation" *The Linguist* 61,2 April/May 2022. <https://thelinguist.uberflip.com/the-linguist-archive/tl61-2-uberflip-final?p=16>

Liu, Y. (2022). Commodification of the Chinese language: Investigating language ideology in the Chinese complementary schools' online discourse. *Current Issues in Language Planning*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14664208.2022.2037290> (SSCI Indexed)

Liu, Y. and Ren, Wei. (2021). Task-based Language Teaching in local EFL context: Chinese university teachers' beliefs and practices. *Language Teaching Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13621688211044247> (SSCI Indexed)

McDermott, P., Nic Craith, M. & Strani, K. (2021, Jul 14). Beyond simple narratives: Northern Ireland needs intercultural dialogue post-Brexit. <https://www.identitiesjournal.com/blog-collection/beyond-simple-narratives-northern-ireland-needs-intercultural-dialogue-post-brexit>

Fadel, L. (2021). 'But You Don't Look Like a Syrian': Migrant Narrative Beyond the Dichotomous Divide in Migration Studies. *Displaced Voices: A Journal of Archives, Migration and Cultural Heritage*, 2(1), 61-65. <https://doi.org/10.15123/uel.898y3>

Greru, C. B., & **Kalkreuter, B.** (2021). Postcolonial and Global Heritage Narratives from Communal and Individual Perspectives in Dumbara Weaving – Sri Lanka. In S. Surette, & E. Cheasley Paterson (Eds.), *Craft and Heritage: Intersections in Critical Studies and Practice* Bloomsbury.

Kalkreuter, B. (2021). Making practice as narrator of changing social worlds-Textiles and the Scottish Borders, in the 21st century, but based firmly on the past? In L. Di Lucchio, L. Imbesi, A. Giambattista, & V. Malakuczi (Eds.), *Design Culture(s). Cumulus Conference Proceedings Roma 2021: Series 7* (Vol. 2, pp. 2931-2941). (Cumulus Conference Proceedings; Vol. 2, No. 7). [https://cumulusroma2020.org/proceedings-files/DC\(s\)_PROXIMITY_track.pdf](https://cumulusroma2020.org/proceedings-files/DC(s)_PROXIMITY_track.pdf)

La Porte, P. (2021). Dissenting Voices: The Secretariat of the League of Nations and the Drafting of Mandates, 1919–1923. *Diplomacy and Statecraft*, 32(3), 440-463. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09592296.2021.1961485>

Liu, Y. & Ren, W. (2021). Task-based language teaching in a local EFL context: Chinese university teachers' beliefs and practices. *Language Teaching Research*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/13621688211044247>

Netto, G., Baillie, L., Georgiou, T., Lai, W. T., Endut, N., Strani, K., & O'Rourke, B. (2021). Resilience, smartphone use and language among urban refugees in the Global south. *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369183X.2021.1941818>

Mc Dermott, P., Nic Craith, M., & Strani, K. (2021). Beyond simple narratives: Northern Ireland needs intercultural dialogue post-Brexit. Identities blog. <https://www.identitiesjournal.com/blog-collection/beyond-simple-narratives-northern-ireland-needs-intercultural-dialogue-post-brexit>

Nic Craith, M. (2021), 'Photo-Albums and Life-Stories: The Dilemma of Choice and Representation. In: Michaela Fenske und Susanne Dinkl (eds) *Durch Leben wandeln. Neuere biografische Forschungen*, Würzburg, pp. 209-34.

Strani, K. (2021). Is hate universal? *The Linguist*, 60(1), 24-26. <https://www.ciol.org.uk/the-linguist#ufh-i-646517560-the-linguist-60-1-feb-mar-2021>

Tinker, C. (2021). Coming out and beyond: press coverage of popular music artists Emmanuel Moire and Eddy de Pretto. *Contemporary French Civilization*, 46(1), 75–102. <https://doi.org/10.3828/cfc.2021.4>

Forthcoming Publications

Lefringhausen, Katharina Paper accepted by Group Processes & Intergroup Relations (GPIR) entitled "Majority Members' Acculturation: How Proximal-Acculturation Relates to Expectations of Immigrants and Intergroup Ideologies over Time". The study investigated how three different conceptualizations of UK majority members' acculturation interrelated over time. Results revealed that majority members' own acculturation orientations and strategies predicted their intergroup ideologies (e.g., support for multiculturalism); the expectation for the own majority group to culturally change (integration-transformation) predicted majority members' own acculturation orientation towards their national and immigrants' cultures.

Mackie, Alastair & Strani, Katerina. (2023) [forthcoming] "On the soft power of values: the Scotland is Now campaign" in Chitty, N., Ji, L. & Rawnsley, G. (eds.) The Routledge Handbook of Soft Power 2nd Edition.

Tinker, Chris. "Posthumous Celebrity, Persona and Memorialisation: French Newspaper Coverage of the Popular Music Artist Johnny Hallyday." *Celebrity Studies*.

Project Updates

- **Completion:** EU-Erasmus+ Mobile Virtual Learning for Indigenous Languages (IndyLan) (2019-2022). PI **Strani**.

The project included the following 5 partners from 4 countries (UK, Finland, Norway and Spain):

Heriot-Watt University, UK (Coordinator)

Cornwall Council, UK

Saami Council Headquarters, Norway

Learnmera Oy, Finland

Asociación Moviéndote por la Integración y la Participación Ciudadana, Spain

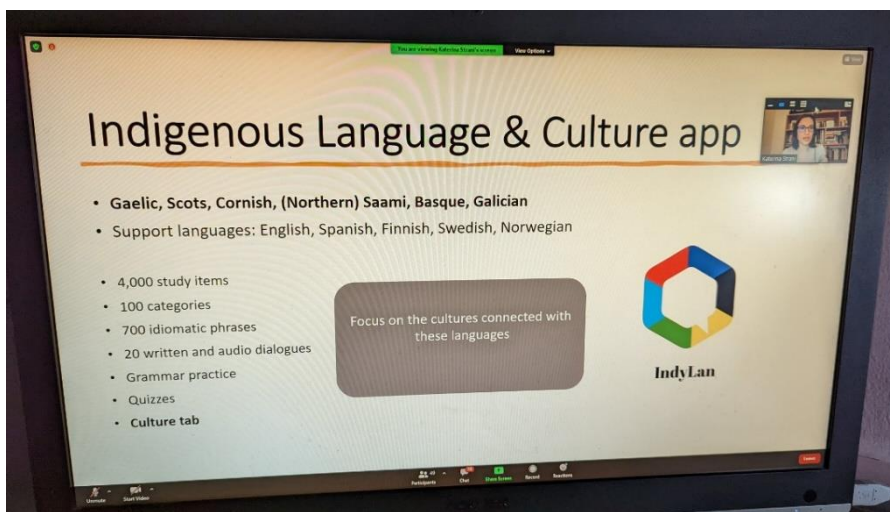
The project developed a mobile application that helps speakers of English, Spanish, Norwegian, Swedish and Finnish to learn Gaelic, Scots, Cornish, Basque, Galician and Northern Saami, all endangered at different degrees. IndyLan is designed to help users learn some of Europe's endangered languages and find out about the cultures of the people who speak these languages. The app contains more than 4,000 vocabulary items (terms and expressions) in about 100 categories. The modes in the application are: Vocabulary; Phrases; Dialogues; Grammar; Aural Comprehension; Culture. Our vision is for the IndyLan app to contribute to endangered language learning and revitalisation so that these languages remain alive and relevant in contemporary societies and economies.

Download the app on iOS: <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/indylan-learn-indigenous-langs/id1590288935>

Download the app on Android/GooglePlay:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.indylan>

The **Final Dissemination event** took place on the 27th of January online and marked the formal launch of the app for all languages.



Our event included a presentation of the project and the app, followed by user feedback and Q&A, and concluded with a fantastic variety of performances by acclaimed artists in Gaelic, Scots, Cornish, Basque, Galician and Northern Sámi. We all *loved* the performances, which really brought to life the languages and their heritage. The performers were:

Brian Ó hEadhra and Fionnag NicChoinnich (Gaelic)

Steve Byrne (Scots)

Áslat Holmberg (Saami)

Eva Martín (Basque)

Bec Applebee (Cornish)

Unfortunately, the Galician performer was not able to join us.

In the news

The project featured on BBC Alba - An Là, on BBC Radio nan Gàidheal - Aithris an Fheasgair, and it on Scots Radio.



The BBC published an article about new initiatives for learning Cornish, which included our app: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cornwall-60302511>

This clip also went out on BBC Breakfast Show and BBC Spotlight South West earlier in February: <https://twitter.com/gocornish/status/1491686375321710595>

The project officially ended in February 2022 and the app will remain free to download for 5 years. The software will be open source, and the source will be published in September on our website so that it can be developed further.

- New funding: **Katerina Strani, 'Understanding Hate to Counter Extremism' British Academy Horizon Europe Pump Priming Collaboration between UK and EU Partners, £9,919**

The project funded a pilot study on hate speech against Ukrainians in Poland which fed into a larger project application. Partners from HWU (lead), Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, University of Cyprus, Ludwig Maximilian University in Munich and Wrocław University of Science and Technology spent 4 days on a writing retreat to write up the study and prepare the application.



- **Eilidh Johnstone (IRC PhD Student)** is spending the summer in Taipei, funded by a Taiwan Ministry of Education Short Term Research Award. Eilidh is collecting data for her PhD project on **translation in museums** (supervised by Michelle Liao and Katerina Strani), including, as pictured here, at the New Taipei Yingge Ceramics Museum, where she is carrying out most of her data collection.



- **Yuying Liu** has been awarded a SoSS Internal funded research project: 'Investigating the transforming sociolinguistic profile of the Chinese complementary schools in Scotland' (2021-2023).

PhD Graduations

Jafar Ahmad. *How has the annual commemoration of Ashura affected, shaped and informed Shi'a-Sunni current relations in Iraq?* (supervisors Pablo La Porte and Chris Tinker)

Naomi Harvey. *Sound archiving and traditional song transmission in Scotland : exploring a confluence of practice* (supervisors Ullrich Kockel and Mairéad Nic Craith)

Anna-Elisabeth Holm. *New Times in the Faroe Islands, New Speakers of Faroese and the Sociolinguistics of Labour Market Inclusion: Challenges and Opportunities* (supervisors Mike Danson and Bernadette O'Rourke)

Regina Schmid. *Et in Arcadia – mulier? Italienrepräsentationen deutschsprachiger Autorinnen des 18. bis 20. Jahrhunderts.* (Textual constructions of Italy by German-speaking women writers between the late 18th and 20th centuries) (supervisors Ullrich Kockel and Maggie Sargeant)

Congratulations!

Conference Papers

Katharina Lefringhausen presented two papers at the SIETAR Europa congress in May 2022 (Malta) entitled "Shifting Perspectives: How Majority Members' Acculturation Relates to Expectations of and Ideologies towards Immigrants over Time " and "How to Address Majority Members' Acculturation across Contexts ".

Katerina Strani and Anna Szczepaniak-Kozak, "A cross-national case study of online reactions to the killing of Arkadiusz Jóźwik", Panel: Discrimination and Racism in Cross-National Perspectives, Thursday 8th July. <https://www.imiscoe.org/events/annual-conference/925-17th-imiscoe-annual-conference-luxembourg-june-30-2-july-2020>

Yuying Liu, 'Perceptions, Practices and challenges of Chinese heritage language maintenance and education outside major urban area: a case study in Ireland' paper presented at The British Association of Applied Linguistics Annual Conference, (Belfast) September 2022.

Yuying Liu, 'Commodification of the Chinese language: Language ideology of the Chinese complementary schools in Ireland' paper presented at The IRISH ASSOCIATION FOR APPLIED LINGUISTICS 2021, University College Dublin, 13 Nov 2021.

Yuying Liu, 'Language policy and Chinese heritage maintenance' paper presented at The British Association of Applied Linguistics Annual Conference, (online), September 2021.

Chris Tinker, 'Consensus and Division in Media Coverage of the Popular Music Gay Icon', Association for the Study of Modern and Contemporary France (ASMCF) Annual Conference, U. Chester (online), September 2021).

Guest Talks

Katharina Lefringhausen was invited as a speaker at the SIETAR Germany BARcamp conference (<https://sietar-deutschland.de/sietar-deutschlands-barcamp-04-05-02-2022-register-and-secure-ticket-registration-open/>). Katharina introduced participants to the SIETAR UK RAAS project, which she leads. She worked together with 12 intercultural trainers to support volunteers who work with refugee and people who seek asylum in the UK.

Yuying Liu, 'Commodification of Chinese language in the Irish media', Invited Guest lecture by the [Department of Languages, Culture and Film, University of Liverpool](#), Nov 2021. <https://www.liverpool.ac.uk/events/event/?eventid=99854>

Yuying Liu, 'On Chinese heritage language maintenance', Invited Guest lecture by Doctorate Association University of Edinburgh, April 2021.

Yuying Liu, 'Teaching Chinese as a foreign language: opportunities and challenges' Invited Guest lecture by Hunan University of Science and Engineering, China, March 2021.

School of Social Sciences Doctoral Conference 2022: *Building resilient communities*

Katerina Strani (below), Migration theme lead, gave a keynote address at the 2nd Annual School of Social Sciences Doctoral Conference, entitled: "What race are Polish people? I thought they were the same as British folk": racializing tropes of the Eastern European 'other' in the UK'



IRC PhD students presented their work:

Chiara Cocco, 'Doing festival research: methodological challenges in a complex and ever-changing field'

Eilidh Johnstone, 'What Does Tea Taste Like? Omission and Acceptability in Museum Translation'

Leri Price (below), 'Narratives of home and belonging: exploring Syrian women's experiences of Scotland'



See <https://sosspgrconference.wordpress.com/>

Visiting Professorships

Katerina Strani was Visiting Professor at the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology and at the Institute of Applied Linguistics, Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland (Sep 2021- Jan 2022). The visiting professorship included teaching of two elective courses in Semester 1:

1. Migration, Identities and Inclusion as part of the MA in Anthropology
2. Multilingualism and Politics, at the Institute of Applied Linguistics

And 2 invited lectures:

1. 26th October 2022: 'Cyber hate speech in the UK and Poland' at the Institute of Applied Linguistics
2. 9th November 2022: 'Rethinking liminalities in migration' at the Institute of Ethnology and Cultural Anthropology

Chris Tinker was Visiting Professor in March 2022 at the University of Le Havre collaborating with Patrick Barban, Professor of Private Law, as well as members of the Centre for Research into legal and social change (CERMUD), the Identity and Cultures Research Centre (GRIC), and the cross-faculty Institute for Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences (PRSH). The visit included a contribution on media language and sexuality to a research seminar on Language and Norms. Langage et normes - Portail Universitaire du droit (univ-droit.fr)



Engagement and Impact Activities

Ian Baxter, Commentary pieces for **Built Environment Forum Scotland**

"A heritage observatory" (Sept 2021) <https://www.befs.org.uk/latest/a-heritage-observatory/>

"A good death for Scotland's heritage?" (Feb 2022)
<https://www.befs.org.uk/latest/good-death-for-scotlands-heritage/>

Ian Baxter, Press comment in Feb 2022 in Sunday Herald, Sunday Post, The Herald on **managed decay of heritage sites in Scotland**.

During 2020-22 **Ian Baxter** has been chairing the national **Covid-19 Historic Environment Resilience Forum** (on behalf of BEFS and Historic Environment Scotland). <https://www.befs.org.uk/policy-topics/covid-resilience-forum/>

IRC PhD student **Marc Romano** has recently completed the Lothian Learners project, supported by both the Public Engagement Team and the Academic Liaison and Outreach Coordinator at Heriot-Watt University. The Lothian Learners Project aims to co-create visual and engaging materials which align with the Curriculum for Excellence. Drawing from his own PhD research in heritage and interpretation, Marc produced engaging educational materials for primary 5-6 pupils in the West Lothian area as well as West Lothian Libraries.

Through training and exchange with professionals in education and public engagement, Marc has introduced the future generation to topics of Scottish cultural heritage and history via the design of a card game. The addition of QR codes to cards made them more interactive for a younger generation, able to learn historical facts and explore many resources from Historic Environment Scotland including 3D models and videos. The game itself is centred around building up the historical timeline of Edinburgh Castle from first settlers to nowadays. The end results proved to be a great success for the children exploring and connecting with their own heritage and becoming, as the name of the card game indicates, 'Little Scots Time Travelers'.

See <https://twitter.com/DrSamanthaClark/status/1506655861988544512?s=20&t=gjX1G1NhgD6IYZn-mCiRFg>

Katerina Strani will be delivering a Continuing Professional Development course on **Intercultural Awareness in the Workplace** on 20th August 2022, as part of Heriot-Watt University's CPD summer school. Course information and registration link here: <https://www.hw.ac.uk/uk/schools/social-sciences/languages-intercultural/cpd/intercultural-awareness-in-the-workplace.htm>

Katerina Strani has become a member of the [AHRC Peer Review College](#)

IRC Career Ready Internship The IRC offered a Career Ready paid Internship to Grace Igbinoke, S5 pupil in July-August 2021. Grace worked with Dr Katerina Strani on the IndyLan project and participated in research meetings related to other projects. Grace's blog post on her experience, 'Thoughts on Language, Culture and Migration' were published in the LifeinLINCS blog: <https://lifeinlincs.org/?p=2879>

Chris Tinker is co-organiser of the conference *The Broken Mirror: Christine and the Queens and Global Frenchness*, Winthrop-King Institute, Florida State University, October 2022. <https://winthropking.fsu.edu/event/broken-mirror-christine-and-queens-and-global-frenchness>

Chris Tinker is a member of the Advisory Panel for the conference *Féminisation de la chanson? Approches théoriques et empiriques (2000-2022)*, University of Strasbourg, June 2022. <https://creaa.unistra.fr/evenements/journees-detudes/2022/feminisation-de-la-chanson-approches-theoriques-et-empiriques-2000-2022/>

Looking ahead to 2022-23

Katharina Lefringhausen will be introducing the SIETAR UK's RAAS project to SIETAR Swiss and Austria in an online event on the 13th of September.

Kerstin Pfeiffer (IRC), **Jos Collins (IRC PhD student)** and Neill Martin (Edinburgh) have been invited to lead an interactive theatre workshop on Discovering Galoshins as part of the European Cultural Days at the Museum Europäischer Kulturen in Berlin (September 2022). <https://www.smb.museum/en/museums-institutions/museum-europaeischer-kulturen/home/>

We look forward to welcoming as Visiting Professor to IRC/HWU Edinburgh Prof. **Patrick Barban** Centre for Research into legal and social change (CERMUD), University of Le Havre in November 2022 (more details to follow).
