

Language policy and practices in the Global North and South: Challenges, opportunities and future directions

Date 23/06/2021

Time: 09:00 – 10:30 CET

Professor Ghil'ad Zuckermann, The University of Adelaide, Australia

Revivalistics: From the Genesis of Israeli to Language Reclamation in Australia and Beyond

Abstract: This lecture will explain why language revival is (1) right, (2) beautiful, and (3) beneficial. In our current world, more and more groups are losing their heritage. Language reclamation (e.g. Hebrew and the Barngarla Aboriginal language of South Australia), revitalization (e.g. Shanghainese and the Adnyamathanha Aboriginal language) and reinvigoration (e.g. Te Reo Māori and Welsh) are becoming increasingly relevant as more and more people seek to reconnect with their ancestors, recover their cultural autonomy, empower their spiritual and intellectual sovereignty, and improve their wellbeing and mental health. There is an urgent need to offer comparative insights, for example from the Hebrew revival, which resulted in a hybrid that I call "Israeli".

Main Reference:

Zuckermann, G. 2020. *Revivalistics: From the Genesis of Israeli to Language Reclamation in Australia and Beyond*. New York: Oxford University Press.



Professor Ghil'ad Zuckermann is Chair of Linguistics and Endangered Languages at the University of Adelaide, Australia. He is a chief investigator in a National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) project assessing language revival and mental health. In 2011 he launched, with the Barngarla Aboriginal communities of Eyre Peninsula, South Australia, the reclamation of the Barngarla language. He is the author of the bestseller *Israelit Safa Yafa* (Israeli – A Beautiful Language; Am Oved, 2008); *Revivalistics: From the Genesis of Israeli to Language Reclamation in Australia and Beyond* (OUP, 2020), *Language Contact and Lexical Enrichment in Israeli Hebrew* (Palgrave Macmillan, 2003), the first online *Dictionary of the Barngarla Aboriginal Language* (2018). Professor Zuckermann is elected member of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) and the Foundation for Endangered Languages (FEL). He is also the President of the Australian Association for Jewish Studies (AAJS) and his MOOC (Massive Open Online Course), *Language Revival: Securing the Future of Endangered Languages*, has attracted 20,000 learners from 190 countries.

Registration link:

<https://universiteitleiden.zoom.us/meeting/register/u5UqcOGrqT0uGdS01iSiu3Xo7Bj5J5NUXxU5>

(Please remember that a valid ZOOM account will be required for registration)



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