



## **CALL FOR ABSTRACTS** **efсли 2016 conference**

**Deadline for submission: 31st January 2016**

The Association of Greek Sign Language Interpreters (AGSLI-SDENG) is proud to host next year's AGM and conference of the European Forum of Sign Language Interpreters (efсли) in Athens (Greece). The event will take place from the 9th to 11th September 2016 under the title:

### **“It’s all Greek to me”** **Versatility in the sign language interpreting profession**



Following the conference theme, we will search for answers to questions that arise in relation to difficulties interpreters experience when interpreting in a range of different environments and interact with people from very different backgrounds, both Deaf and hearing. Versatility is one of the

most highly valued qualities in the interpreting profession. In order to achieve this desired flexibility, practitioners need to commit to continued learning across their professional careers. Effective adaptive strategies need to be acquired by interpreters in order to easily and quickly adjust to a changing environment for which practitioners might not be fully prepared. This conference will focus on how interpreters SUCCESSFULLY interpret when it is otherwise “all Greek”.

Some of the topics to be covered include:

**(i) Working in specialist settings:** working effectively in settings where interpreters are non-experts (terminology, custom and practice, hierarchical structures, etc.);

**(ii) Working inter-culturally:** What are the cultural ‘signposts’ or ‘barriers’ that interpreters encounter and need to negotiate in such working conditions? Are these the same or different for Deaf and hearing interpreters? How do interpreters effectively work between International Sign and other languages? How can interpreters manage the challenges arising in contexts where there are many working languages, with code-switching potentially occurring between languages/ across modalities, e.g. someone switching between English and French, or British Sign Language and IS, or French and LSF?

**(iii) Quality Control:** what kinds of protocols are in place (or should be in place) to ensure quality control in specialist settings (e.g. mentoring arrangements, supervision, licensing, assessment, testing, etc.)? What does the ‘ideal model’ include? How do interpreters get to that?

Thus we invite Deaf and hearing interpreters, interpreter trainers, researchers, students and customers of interpreting services to join us in a professional discussion related to interpreting in specialist and inter-cultural settings with regard to:

- techniques and strategies of interpreting
- methods of teaching interpreting
- ethics of interpreting
- Deaf interpreters
- Deaf and hearing interpreters working together
- team interpreting and co-working in diverse environments interacting with people from very different backgrounds

Presentations may be either:

- Plenary lecture-style presentations of 40 minutes (30 minute presentation, 10 minutes for questions)
- Practical workshops of 120 minutes (including an introductory note of 20 minutes, the moderation of the workshop and the preparation of a summary presented on Sunday)

- Poster presentations (A1 format) (an exclusive time slot will be provided)

**Proposals should be submitted by 31st January 2016 and should include:**

- Name of presenter(s)
- Short biography of each presenter (max. 100 words to be published online and in the program booklet)
- Contact details for correspondence
- Title of presentation
- Language of presentation
- Abstract (max. 300 written words/ video of two minutes max.)
- The choice of presentation (presentation, workshop, poster)

Proposals should be submitted in English in a Word document or in International Sign. The video format should be .mov or .flv. All proposals should be sent to [abstracts2016@efsli.org](mailto:abstracts2016@efsli.org) (videos can be sent via <http://www.sendspace.com> or similar tools for sending big files)

The selection criteria will be based on relevance, significance, quality, originality, clarity, and overall presentation.

All abstracts will be reviewed by the Scientific Committee (listed in alphabetical order):

Eirini Andrikopoulou (Greece)  
Marianna Hatzopoulou (Greece)  
Anna-Lena Nilsson (Norway-Sweden)  
Patty Shores (Switzerland)  
Christopher Stone (United Kingdom)  
Sandrine Burgat (France)

Official notification of acceptance or rejection of proposals will be made by **15 March 2016**.

Selected presenters will be required to register by **30 March 2016**.

Full papers and PowerPoint presentations in English must be submitted no later than **1 August 2016**. Full papers will be included in the efsli 2016 conference proceedings.

Conference languages will be English, Greek, International Sign and Greek Sign Language. All presenters who wish to use a different spoken or signed language are advised to supply their own interpreters.