International conference

LANGUAGES AT WAR: POLICIES AND PRACTICES OF LANGUAGE CONTACTS IN CONFLICT
7-9 April 2011, Imperial War Museum, London

List of abstracts

Baker	Dr. Catherine Baker University of Southampton When Bosnia was a Commonwealth country: British forces and their interpreters in Republika Srpska, 1995-2007 British forces established a network of bases in Republika Srpska immediately after the Dayton Peace Agreement in December 1995 and remained, with their presence centred on the divisional base at the Banja Luka Metal Factory, until 2007. This paper draws on oral history interviews with interpreters who worked in towns such as Mrkonjic Grad, Sipovo, Prijedor and Banja Luka itself to present an account of their experiences between the arrival of British troops and the closure of the Metal Factory: from beginning work during the improvised phase of recruitment and adapting to the diverse dialects and regimental cultures of British forces, through reconciling one's employment with local mistrust of NATO, to negotiating the anxieties of the gradual drawdown of forces and coming to terms with the cultural and political impact of years of close contact with the British military.
Best	Dr David Albert Best Università degli studi di Napoli "L'Orientale", Italy For use in connection with Italian prisoners-of-war working in Agriculture": Case study of an *Italian Phrase Book* designed for Scots farmers assigned Italian P.O.W.s "This little book is intended as an aid to farmers and their households, officials, foremen and all who have to deal with Italian prisoners-of-war." Thus commences the *Italian Phrase Book and Vocabulary* issued by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture for Scotland. The booklet, part of government foreign language policy during WWII, was aimed at those in direct charge of prisoners-of-war who, in many cases, were "peasant" soldiers taken during desert combat in North Africa and then put to work on Scottish farms, but also those many male members of Scots-Italian families who had been residing peacefully on British soil for years and had nothing to do with the Italian military

	campaign nor, for that matter, with farming. In the *Italian Phrase Book*, much is told in the agrarian terminology about Scottish agriculture, landscapes, and climatic conditions, in a simplified, phonetically transcribed Italian. But even with such a basic approach to language acquisition, where "the phrase will be intelligible to Italians even if the speaker does not know how to pronounce the language", would such a rustic outlook have made much sense to Italians coming from very different rural Mediterranean (or non-rural Scottish) contexts? My case study of the little *Italian Phrase Book* endeavours to shed light on what Scots farmers/ landowners and their Italian P.O.W.s made of a pamphlet designed to ease communication with one another through "dealing with the main kind of work prisoners undertake" when perhaps – if we think in translation terms – the concepts "communicated" by the Ministry were either redundant or had no cultural equivalence at all.
British Council	Resolving Conflict via English : the British Council's Peacekeeping English Project Presenters Nicholas Fletcher - manager Afghan National Security Forces Language Capability Project British Council Afghanistan Peter Hare – manager Peacekeeping English Project British Council Ethiopia This paper firstly will seek to give an overview of the British Council's Peacekeeping English projects which have run or are still running in 34 countries all over the world. It will outline a brief history of the projects, how they were conceived, how they were funded, how they evolved and how they matured. Secondly the paper will seek to show how the British Council's approach to introducing effective English language learning, teaching and testing systems in Ministries of Defence and in Ministries of the Interior around the world differ from analogue systems introduced by US agencies. Subsequently the paper will present four case studies of Peacekeeping English projects set up in Mongolia, Colombia, Ethiopia and Afghanistan. The project was set up in Mongolia to enable the country to send military units on UN peacekeeping missions around the world where the working language was English. The project was set up in Colombia for the same reason but also to enable the Colombian armed forces to work effectively with US agencies to counter the "narco-traficantes". In Afghanistan, English language proficiency is essential for the Afghan security forces to collaborate effectively with multinational partners while the Ethiopian armed forces need English to work productively as African Union peacekeepers.

	Lastly the paper will attempt to assess the impact of the Peacekeeping English projects in helping to defuse global conflict using both quantitative and qualitative data.
Cairoli	Dr. Roberta Cairoli PhD, Università degli Studi of Milan

Nazi fascist Spies and saboteurs in freed Italy (1943-1945)

If the main strategies and politics of the Nazi occupation regime in Italy have been effectively reconstructed thanks to fundamental studies by historians such as Collotti, Klinkhammer, Schreiber and Gentile to name but a few, the activities of the German intelligence agencies in liberated Italy are still nearly completely unexplored. Those activities consisted in sending Italian agents, men and women, behind enemy lines; they were recruited and trained to carry out delicate missions of espionage and sabotage in the Allies occupied territory.
The crossed analysis of documents from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Washington DC, and in particular from the Office of Counterespionage of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), contributes to throw light on the location and organization of the *GIS* (*German Service Intelligence*) which operated in tight connection with the special services, the police and the Armed Forces of the Italian Social Republic (RSI), giving place to a chaotic proliferation of control centers whose competences often overlapped.
The interrogation reports written by the agents of the Counter-Intelligence Corps (CIC) - opportunely instructed on the interrogation techniques to employ in order to unmask enemy spies - concurs, moreover, to reconstruct the profile of *enemy agents*, their family and socio-cultural background, the activities carried out before and after the 8th September 1943, the reasons and the modalities of their enlistment, the characteristics of the mission and the circumstances of their arrest.
In the greater part of the cases they were young people from the National Republican Guard (GNR), from Decima Flotilla Mas, from the Movement of the republican Italian Young people (MGIR) and meaningfully from the feminine auxiliary Services, a true tank of recruitment for the "secret agents".
Many engaged in the recruitment of agents who were provided through special offices were sent to schools to be taught courses, lasting between ten and thirty days, on the collection of information or sabotage operations to be performed in Allied-occupied Italy. The task of recruiting agents was generally entrusted to military personnel, mainly Italian or German officers who knew and spoke Italian. In other cases, agents were the same as those who helped the recruitment of friends and wished to experience "adventure" or were flattered by the excitement of engagement. Women were also recruited, such as those known as "Annabella", alias Baronessa Von Hodenberg, of German nationality, |

	Floriana Bianchini Poli, "Daniela" also known as the "Black Lady", engaging with her husband for the Abwehr, or Miranda Serra, Commander of the female group "Onore e Combattimento" in Milan, which dealt with the recruitment for the "Special Group A" Col. David, composed exclusively of female staff. With regard to education the courses were exclusively led by German officers who spoke perfect Italian, aided and assisted by an interpreter. In this regard what is particularly relevant is the presence of a large number of women employed in the German secret services - particularly in Sicherheisdienst (SD) - acting as interpreters and secretaries, however, they were also used as spies. The paper will therefore contribute to wider debates on the cultural history of war, especially addressing gender issues, and by offering an entirely new perspective on 'meeting the other in war and conflict'.
Charalambous	Constadina Charalambous Open University Cyprus Learning the language of 'The Other' in conflict-ridden Cyprus: exploring barriers and possibilities Language-learning is considered a key school-subject for developing intercultural understanding, and recently, there has been an increasing number of scholars writing about the contribution of language education to intercultural communication. Nevertheless, this research strand has tended to ignore contexts where the target-language is the language of an 'enemy', and where language-learning becomes highly ideological. In order to bring these issues to the foreground, this paper draws on data from a linguistic ethnographic study in Cyprus. Taking into account the history of long and violent conflict between the Greek- and Turkish-Cypriot communities, this study examined the discursive (re-)negotiations of ethnic identity and ethnolinguistic borders that occurred in classes teaching the language of 'The Other'. By transferring the debates around language, identity and communication across 'cultures', to a context of an intractable conflict, this paper i) explores the challenges for both intercultural education and peace education theories, as well as for educational practitioners; ii) it calls for attention to the significance of the identity-discourses and the historico-political representations of 'us' and 'others', highlighting the different ideologies that may underpin and influence the process and outcomes of language classes, iii) ultimately, it discusses the extent to which Other-language-

	learning can contribute to intercultural understanding.
Cinelli	Dr Gianluca Cinelli Istituto Storico della Resistenza e della Società Contemporanea in Provincia di Cuneo "Livio Bianco" Tampering with the experience of war. The effect of censorship and self-censorship on the language of the Italian and German letters from the USSR, 1941-1945 With this paper I intend to deliver the findings of my current research on the representation of the Fascist war against the USSR of 1941-1945. I focus on the letters that Italian and German soldiers sent home from the USSR, in which a complex interaction takes place between the official language of propaganda and indoctrination, and the private language of family relationships. The presence of censorship (what combatants cannot write) and self-censorship (what they do not want to write) constitutes the main difficult in interpreting the language of letters from the front. I will study the rhetoric of letters (above all the use of understatement) to see war's effect on language. Since combatants cannot express fully their real experience of violence and brutality, they blur it with the account of every-day survival and by recalling the set of moral values that they share within the environment of the family. This creates a two-faceted language in which the struggle with censorship and self-censorship becomes the central issue in elaborating the moral condition of the individual involved in war.
Cohen	Paul Cohen University of Toronto Mithridates at War: Linguistic Diversity, the Royal Army, and the Experience of Warfare in Early Modern France The composite make-up of the French army in the early modern period injected linguistic plurality into the very heart of the monarchy's most regalian function of all, warfare. At certain moments in the sixteenth century, foreign mercenaries represented well over half the infantry forces in the royal army, and the Swiss, German, Italian, Scottish and Irish soldiers who fought under the French king's banner continued to speak their own tongues amongst themselves. If we also consider the numerous local languages spoken by recruits from across France, the French army represented a dizzyingly polyglot social organization indeed. This paper proposes to examine the experience of linguistic plurality in the French royal army between the sixteenth and eighteenth centuries. Specifically, I consider four aspects of this experience: first, I

	will trace the contours of linguistic plurality across the army as a whole; second, I will examine how the Crown met the formidable challenge of mediating its troops' many tongues in order to effectively organize, administer and command its army; third, how officers of individual units took measures to communicate with a diverse mix of recruits; and fourth, how linguistic difference between military units and civilian populations shaped the character of their relations.
Fernández Sánchez	M. Manuela Fernández Sánchez, Senior Lecturer, Department of Translation and Interpreting, University of Granada (Spain) A bilingual officer remembers Korea: A closer look at untrained interpreters in the Korean War When Richard Underwood –who served as a US Army Interpreter at the Korean Armistice negotiations– was asked about the most difficult task he had faced as an interpreter in the Panmunjom talks, he mentioned the constant effort to convey "the true thoughts behind the words", to be ambiguous or very specific, when ambiguity and specificity were required. As students of Interpreting History of the early Cold War era, we immediately related this interpreter's testimony with many others who also gave extensive attention to the issue of accuracy as a primary requirement placed on interpreters at times of war. Understandably, the task of restating the speaker's message as closely as possible to the original message is invaluable in mediated interpreted events that take place in conflict situations because every misunderstanding might cost lives or slow down difficult military negotiations. In this paper we study the work of untrained interpreters with different geographic and cultural backgrounds in the Korean War. We also identify a number of contradictory demands and requirements put on them, all of which might explain why their work was so difficult, technically and emotionally. This research is based on personal communications with one of the main interpreters in truce negotiations at the Panmunjom talks, as well as on the memoirs and diaries of participants in the Korean War, interpreters included.
Fitchett	Linda Fitchett, AIIC (International Association of Conference Interpreters) In 2009 AIIC launched a project to help interpreters/translators in conflict areas. Concentrating largely on recent conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan it seeks to raise awareness of the plight of these interpreters, hundreds of whom have died or been injured whilst helping foreign troops, journalists etc. It seeks better protection for them and their families both during and post conflict and to advise interpreters

	and employers on the requirements, use and treatment of interpreters/translators in a conflict situation. This paper documents the situation of these interpreters, who lack basic training as interpreters, are unsure of their role, are exposed to danger on a daily basis, and have no guaranteed personal or professional future at the end of the conflict or with the withdrawal of foreign troops. It relates the efforts of the project so far and points ways forward to a better future for these interpreters. It links the efforts of AIIC to other projects, including Languages at War, showing how the findings of each might lead to influencing government policy on language learning, the recognition of the need for and role of interpreters/translators in conflict areas, and the way to protect them and their families both during and post conflict.
Heimburger	Franziska Heimburger EHESS (CRH-AHMOC) Paris Fighting Together. Language Issues in Military Coordination of World War One Allied Coalition Warfare "The English troops [...] could not use French spades, which meant 8000 spades per division had to be exchanged when we relieved a French division and vice versa." Thus wrote, considerably after the war, and in the context of an anthropo- logical essay, Marcel Mauss, onetime French military interpreter alongside the British troops during the First World War. This passing remark not only illustrates the extraordinary and largely unexplored complexity of coalition warfare, but also throws up fundamental questions about communications and specifically language use. Who first noticed there was a problem with the spades? Who did he have to contact to have the problem solved? Who decided on the rotation of spades? Who implemented the policy? And what role did military interpreters like Mauss play in the whole process? In this paper I intend to explore two components of the military coordination aspects of coalition warfare: first of all the logistics of joint attacks, such as those explored by Elizabeth Greenhalgh for the Battle of the Somme and secondly the negotiations concerning the delimitation of the respective military zones, road usage and transport logistics. While the contact between the British troops and the French civilians has already been studied (albeit not specifically from an angle of military interpretation), properly military coordination remains a largely unknown domain. It is hoped to show how such negotiations

	were conducted, what roles the military interpreters played and how successful these various strategies proved to be.
Kameda	Masumi Kameda Ph.D. candidate, The University of Tokyo Performativity in Yugoslav Language at War: Creating Bunjevac Ethnic Identity Out of Croatian Yugoslav wars are famous because they caused drastic linguistic changes in the Serbo-Croatian speaking region and they show how political discourse during War causes a change in consciousness about language; making it not an attribute but an essential core of the collective identity. I will focus on the movement to distinguish the Bunjevac language from the Croatian language, which started when the Serbian authorities tried to change multiethnic Vojvodina into a homogeneous region through the adapting of the new ethnic category "Bunjevac people" in the census of 1991. I use the concept of "performativity," which Judith Butler defined as the role of gender in "Gender Trouble." I examine the "performativity" of language in maintaining the identity of ethnical minority groups at War, analyzing the way how language performs the specific ethnic identity. I will trace how these identity politics during the Yugoslav wars have affected the Croatian language in Serbia.
Kleinman	Dr. Sylvie Kleinman, Research Fellow, Centre for War Studies, Trinity College Dublin 2010-2011. 'Amidst clamour and confusion': Translators and interpreters in the Franco-Irish military partnership against Britain (1792-1804): their experience of strategic communication and soldier-civilian relations, their role as language mediators in conflict and war. Dr Sylvie Kleinman (Centre for War Studies, Trinity College Dublin). From 1792 to 1804, Revolutionary France and Irish separatists forged a strategic and military partnership against Britain. The military failure of the French expeditions to bring about rebellion and independence in Ireland has overshadowed the insightful lessons to be learned on the crucial role of crosslinguistic communication which allied, bi-national campaigns entail. From the abundant archival material to have survived, mainly in French military archives, emerge the voices of key bilingual actors, some famous and others obscure, who became ad hoc or official translators in both civilian and military settings. This corpus of sources yields valuable lessons on the pragmatic process of translating key texts, but extraordinarily too rare insights on the tense and problematic issue of liaising and interpreting in conflict, verbalised by the practitioners themselves. These ranged from civil servants to staff officers and

	generals, political agitators originally trained as priests or lawyers, and civilians including clerics. Engaging eyewitness accounts of the short French occupation of Ireland (1798) will confirm the role of interpreters in occupier-occupied contacts and peacekeeping. Based on a groundbreaking thesis currently under revision for publication, this paper will present compelling evidence on this early chapter in the professionalisation of military translators. It will demonstrate the agency of the individuals who did 'much more than just translate', and how the authorities had recognised the instrumentality of translation (written and oral), a vital communications process underpinning the strategic planning and tactical deployment of these missions, and
Kujamäki	Pekka Kujamäki, Professor of German (Translation and Interpreting) University of Eastern Finland

In military encounters with the enemy or with brothers-in-arms, mediation practices with translation and interpreting (T&I) are developed that can be described as *translation cultures*. The concept was coined by Erich Prunč in 1997 to denote a set of socially determined "norms, conventions, expectations and values" that constrain the T&I activities in a given society or institution. Through this definition, Prunč's concept creates a link to official language mediation policies as well as to personal agencies of those involved as interpreters and translators in the military operations on the front, in the headquarters or in the POW camps.
This paper offers first drafts of the military translation cultures in World War II in Finland. It draws on some of the most recent publications on the two Finnish military conflicts against the Soviet Union (the Winter War in 1939–1941 and the Continuation War in 1941-1944) and on preliminary research data from archived military records. Special attention is paid to the circumstances that prevailed from June 1941 to September 1944 in northern Finland, where Germany had stationed a large contingent of armed forces. For four years, the presence of German headquarters, logistics centres, troops as well as the network of prisoner-of-war camps (Stammlager) formed a multinational setting, in which the practice of T&I was constantly present, though almost totally forgotten today. |
| Mac Giolla Chríost | Dr Diarmait Mac Giolla Chríost

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This paper is based upon recently completed research on the development of the Irish language by Irish republican (ex) prisoners in |

	Northern Ireland in the period from 1972 up until the present day. During this period, these prisoners adapted the Irish language to prison life and in the process created a unique form of the language, which they described as 'Jailic' (a deformation of Gaelic, a common word for the Irish language). Also, the prisoners constructed a unique sociolinguistic space in a certain part of their prison, which they described as the 'Jailtacht' (a play on the term Gaeltacht, the official Irish-speaking parts of the Republic of Ireland). The linguistic, social and political impacts of 'Jailic' and the 'Jailtacht' are considerable. For example, the language spoken in the prison has profoundly shaped the Irish which is spoken on the streets of Belfast and also some of the former members of this prison community now serve as members of Foras na Gaeilge [The Irish Language Board], the statutory body with responsibilities for the Irish language in both Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. The empirical data which I make use of lends itself to several modes of enquiry - stylistic, pragmatic, semiotic, ideological and discursive but my approach in this paper will be largely historical. The data include material from a range of sources, including the following - interviews with former prisoners; records of court cases; Irish language orations at republican funerals; the blogs and chat-rooms of Irish republican organisations; the Irish language graffiti, illegal street names and murals of the linguistic landscape of Irish republican urban heartlands; the Irish language creative writings of the (ex)prisoners; Irish language broadcast media interviews; contemporanaeous documents made available to me by the prisoners which remain unseen by any other researcher; and, some rarely viewed and previously unstudied Irish language pamphlets and other Irish republican papers held in the archives of the Linen Hall Library in Belfast as well as previously unstudied official records on prison governance and policy held at the Public Records' Office of Northern Ireland.
McEntee-Atalianis	The Discourse of Diplomacy: Negotiation and the resolution of conflict in an agency of the United Nations

Lisa J. McEntee-Atalianis
Birkbeck College, University of London

The United Nations and its agencies have long sort to combat conflict and foster global safety and security, however these organizations are themselves sites of political conflict and disharmony. Recent work in the field of political and diplomatic discourse (e.g. Charteris-Black, 2005; Chilton, 2006; McEntee-Atalianis, 2006, 2008) has emphasised the crucial role and power of language in international negotiation and conflict resolution. This paper will focus on a linguistic analysis of the rhetorical strategies employed by international, multilingual delegates in |

	debate within plenary sessions of committee meetings in an agency of the United Nations in London. More specifically, the paper seeks to address the following questions: What are the linguistic resources exploited by diplomats in exercising diplomacy and in the construction of international conventions and policy in the 21st century? How do governmental and non-governmental representatives frame their positions, articulate organisational/national/international goals and purposes; justify policy change or creation; articulate problems/solutions and resolve conflict. The paper will explore linguistic markers of alignment and dissent and discuss how diplomatic discourse functions: cognitively; indexically; grammatically and figuratively. The findings have direct implications for intermediaries and officials involved in contemporary conflict resolution and negotiation in unilateral and multilateral peace-making and conflict situations.
Smith	Dr. Alison Smith, Lecturer in French and Subject Head of European Film Studies, University of Liverpool

Inglourious linguists – Tarantino, language, and the cinematic memory of World War II.

The point of departure of this paper will be Quentin Tarantino's *Inglourious Basterds* (2005), considered as a kind of summum, in the form of a rich and varied pastiche which is at once a celebration and a complex critique, of the various forms taken by the vast and still thriving cinematic production which reconstructs, reconfigures, and renarrates the Second World War, both in Europe and in America. One of the most original aspects of *Inglourious Basterds* is the central place which it gives to language difference and language exchange. Code-switching, not merely between languages but in subtle shifts of accent and register, drives the narrative at its most decisive points ... in fact it determines the whole outcome of Tarantino's war! The innovation is so striking precisely because it is an innovation: if the obtrusiveness of language in *Inglourious Basterds* is *surprising*, it indicates the extent to which our cinematic expectations have been formed to give little thought to language barriers. It is true that audiences have not been entirely unaware of this manipulation, and also that there have been notable exceptions: nonetheless we suggest that the tendency of World War II films (not only from Hollywood) has been to offer audiences consoling linguistic hegemony, and with it some hope of control and ownership of the chaos represented. Even when multiple languages are present, code-switching – except into the hegemonic language – is rare, and true *exchange* almost unheard of. This paper will use some of the linguistic questions raised in *Inglourious Basterds* in order to examine the implications of different approaches to the representation of |

	language difference – or lack of it – in selected filmic representations of the war from different sources, and to ask what may be the implications of demands such as Tarantino felt able to place upon his audience in 2009.
Spiessens	Anneleen Spiessens

PhD student and assistant lecturer at University College Ghent (Belgium), Faculty of Translation Studies.

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My paper assesses the importance of translation as re-narration (Baker) in testimonial literature on the Second World War, focusing in particular on the role and position of authors who voice the perpetrator's perspective. Not only is the actual possibility of the killer's testimony disturbing (how can one speak such atrocities?), the author's choice to give the killer a platform also raises important ethical questions. Given these complexities, the killer's story cannot be but a 'relayed' and therefore 'layered' one, and calls for a particular mise en scène . The mediating author is indeed compelled to disclose his own moral position in relation to the story he recounts and can use various strategies to actively 'frame' the narrative . I draw on narrative theory and discourse analysis in order to lay bare the resulting polyphonic configuration.

An analysis of three Nazi testimonies will illustrate my approach. The narrative structure and different 'degrees' of framing   are discussed in the autobiography of Auschwitz commandant Rudolph Hoess, in Robert Merle's fictional autobiography of Rudolph Lang (alias Hoess) and in Jonathan Littell's bestselling autobiography of fictive SS officer Max Aue. |
| Svoljšak | Petra Svoljšak
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The Italian occupation of Slovenian (Austro-Hungarian) territories in 1915–1917 set the basis for the post-war annexation of the Julian March into the Kingdom of Italy as provided for by the London Pact (April 1915). The Italian army set up all mechanisms of public administration, using the language as the basic instrument of the occupation system. Italian became the official language of public administration. Slovenian personal and family names, as well as place and water body names were Italianised or adjusted to Italian orthography. The Italian occupying forces knew that re-education for the future Italian state community would be more effective especially in school children. Therefore, it was |

	necessary to uproot the Austrian school system and replace it with the Italian one based on the Italian language and Italian curriculum with Italian school subjects. At the same time the authorities introduced Italian national holidays in everyday life. These measures embodied the fundamental political objective of Italian occupation, i.e. to gradually incorporate the occupied territories into the Italian state – a strategy quite contrary, for instance, to the German occupation of Belgium, where the Wallonian and Flemish part retained their own language, culture and tradition. After the Rapallo Treaty on 12 November 1920 concluded between Italy and the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes granted one quarter of the Slovenian territory to Italy, the Italian authorities intensified the denationalisation measures against the Slovenes and Croats. With the advent of Fascism denationalisation became the very essence of the state politics regarding minorities.
Tiedau	Ulrich Tiedau UCL Dept. of Dutch Belgium 1914–1918 : German occupation and the Flemish movement Belgium was one of the central stages of World War I, not only militarily but also in the theatre of cultural propaganda, and language, perhaps unsurprisingly in Belgium, played a central role in it. While in the words of Maurice Maeterlinck, by resisting against the German aggression, Belgium had saved 'the Latin civilisation', the occupier, in classic imperial divide and conquer strategy, tried to attain cultural hegemony by taking advantage of (parts of) the Flemish movement. Chancellor Bethmann Hollweg gave orders for a 'Flemish policy' (Flamenpolitik) to be pursued, which meant that the existing, but scarcely applied Belgian laws that were intended to place Flemish on a par with French and provide cultural autonomy for the Flemings, were put into practice. Dutch replaced French as language of instruction in schools and at the University of Ghent and while this realization of old Flemish demands failed to overcome the anti-German affect of the public in general it did entice a not insignificant minority of Flemish activists, mainly intellectuals, to collaborate. Simultaneously German writers, scholars and publishers, not few of them in military service, discovered Flemish literature and engaged in a large scale translation programme which did not fail to resonate with a German public among whom the idea of German-Flemish linguistic and ethnic affinity ('Stammverwandtschaft') was widespread. Consequently, Belgium and the Flemish question became a much discussed topic in Germany, where even a kind of 'Flemish romanticism' or 'romanticism for the Flemings' (Flamenromantik) developed. This romanticism was spread throughout many cities by local groups of a newly founded

	German-Flemish Society, whose mission, according to its statutes, was 'to spread knowledge and comprehension of Flemishness among the Germans and of Germanness among the Flemings as well as to foster mutual relations on the basis of the tribal and lingual affinity of both peoples'. Dutch as a foreign language boomed and the establishment of Dutch Studies as an academic subject at German universities after 1918 was in part indeed a consequence of this experience and the necessity to accommodate intellectual Flemish activists who had to flee the country after the German defeat.
	The talk will present an overview of the Imperial German government's, the occupation administration's and the military's 'Flemish policies' which differed significantly in aims and methods, the German-Flemish language contacts 'on the ground' and the perception of the 'Belgian Question' by ordinary soldiers and in the German public. It will pay special attention to language intermediaries and other cultural mediators and the impact of World War I, which has also been dubbed the 'most literary of all wars', on Belgian society and the image of Belgium and Flanders in Germany.
Tobia	Dr. Simona Tobia University of Reading Victims of war: displaced people meeting the British in the Second World War Among those who 'meet the other in war and conflict' there are hundreds of thousands of 'victims of war'. During the Second World War the way Britain related to refugees and displaced people changed over time, from the establishment of the Victoria Royal Patriotic School, which processed all newly arrived refugees from early 1941, to the creation of displaced persons camps both in the United Kingdom and in continental Europe. Initially, all decisions regarding refugees had to respond to security issues, and agencies such as MI5 and SIS were involved, whereas at the end of the conflict humanitarian issues became more urgent. This paper will highlight the importance of languages in the process of interviewing and vetting refugees arriving to the country, and it will also focus on the role of languages in the lived experiences of those who were escaping from Nazism, men and women 'on the ground', caught up in the conflict as victims of war.
Todorova	Marija Todorova University American College Skopje The role of interpreters in conflict mediation

	Throughout history interpreters have played a key role in situations of violent conflict, especially between different cultures. They are important in the process of communication between military forces and the local population, processing of data or investigating war prisoners. Moreover, interpreters are an important factor in conflict resolution, in their capacity as facilitators of peace negotiations, conferences and agreements. This paper will attempt to prove, through interviews with interpreters and users of interpreting services, that interpreters have an active role in the process of conflict mediation resembling that of mediators. Accordingly, they need specific skills, knowledge and experience, in order to fulfil this role successfully. In this way, the paper will also recognize interpreters as important parties in the mediation process. This will be done using the case study of the Kosovo and Macedonia. In Kosovo the peace negotiations between the Serbian and Kosovo teams were facilitated by the international community represented by Martti Ahtisaari. In Macedonia, EU representative Francois Leotard and USA representative James Perdue, together with official and unofficial leaders from the country signed the Ohrid Framework Agreement, putting an end to the violent conflict between the Macedonian and Albanian communities.
Tozzi	Christopher Tozzi Ph.D. candidate Johns Hopkins University Department of History Baltimore, Maryland One Army, Four Languages: Linguistic Diversity in the Eighteenth-Century French Military The French army during the eighteenth century recruited not only French natives, but also many thousands of foreigners representing nearly every corner of Europe, as well as such distant locations as North America, the Congo and central Asia. Many of these troops born beyond France's borders understood French with difficulty or not at all. Recognizing the problems that this linguistic diversity could pose on the battlefield, the French Crown introduced a number of initiatives over the course of the eighteenth century designed to standardize the language used by its troops. The most ambitious of these efforts involved an attempt in 1755 to publish and circulate among officers a volume of military commands in French with official German, Italian and English translations printed alongside them. My paper discusses this endeavor, which met with limited success, and evaluates the factors that made the translation and adoption of standardized battlefield language more difficult than royal authorities anticipated. In addition, I discuss other ways in which eighteenth-century officers and soldiers

	coped with language barriers during the decades surrounding the French Revolution, and how political ideologies on the part of governmental authorities affected policies on language within the military.