

Training School #2

Linguistic Plurality in Media: International and National Legal Frameworks

Call for Trainees

18th-20th May 2026

Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka

Rijeka, Croatia



ABOUT PLURILINGMEDIA

PLURILINGMEDIA (COST Action CA23105) is an EU-funded research network uniting academics, practitioners, and policymakers to explore the evolving landscape of minority and regional language media across 41 COST member states and beyond. We investigate how digitalization, policy, and multilingualism shape media representation, support cross-border research collaborations and knowledge exchange, provide funding for Short-Term Scientific Missions (STSMs) and Inclusiveness Target Country Grants (ITC Grants), and organize training schools, workshops, and conferences to advance research and practice.

The Action includes four Working Groups:

1. Audience and content-creator habits
2. Legislation and Standards
3. Language Vitality
4. Journalism

PLURILINGMEDIA intends to advance collaboration and bring coherence to the field of European media from the perspective of language plurality, encouraging involvement of scholars in related disciplines and facilitating knowledge transfer between academics and practitioners. Spreading instances of good practice will be of particular relevance to smaller linguistic spheres and lesser-funded media outlets. PLURILINGMEDIA plans to demonstrate the plurality of a given regional or minority language sphere, empowering use of the language through media. More information about the Action can be found here <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA23105>.

ABOUT THE TRAINING SCHOOL

Training School #2 **“Linguistic Plurality in Media: International and National Legal Frameworks”** is arranged by Working Group 2 Legislation and Standards. The goal is to equip the trainees with new theoretical knowledge about minority language media and regulation, insights into policymaking and media practices, as well as access to a network of scholars.

The program includes lectures about the legal frameworks of Minority Language Media, overview of different international and national legal tools, analytical insights as well as discussions with media & law practitioners. The Trainees will engage with academic and professional experts working in minority language media, reflect on the importance of legal frameworks to protect and promote linguistic plurality in media as well as on the current challenges they face. Several minority language cases will be covered in the Training School, for example, Italian in Croatia, Basque, Finnish in Sweden. In addition to lectures, the Training School will be structured around workshops, discussions, group work as well as field trips and visits to relevant local organizations. The participants will also be expected to produce content for the social media and website of PLURILINGMEDIA. The language of instruction for the Training School is English.

This is the second Training School arranged by PLURILINGMEDIA. The Training Schools serve to help the Action achieve its objectives and deliver impact with regard to capacity building, contribute to the Action's goals to build competence among Action members and create opportunities for knowledge exchange and collaboration (cf. [Memorandum of Understanding](#)). They introduce young researchers and practitioners from different countries to different perspectives, new methods, and empirical insights. Please, visit and follow our website to see the preliminary program of the Training School and other news from PLURILINGMEDIA: <https://plurilingmedia.eu/>.

TRAINEES

The Training School is being prepared for Master's students, PhD students, early career researchers from different academic fields (e.g. law, media studies, journalism, sociolinguistics) from different countries. We also welcome media practitioners with an interest in minority language media and law as Trainees.

DATES AND LOCATION

18-20 May 2026: Faculty of Law, University of Rijeka

The Training School will be organized in collaboration with the University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law. The program will begin with an optional informal gathering on Sunday evening (May 17), followed by three full days of lectures and workshops (May 18–20).

As part of the program, participants will visit a local minority-language (Italian) publisher Edit, (<https://edit.hr/>), which has been active since 1944 and continues to publish a daily newspaper La Voce del Popolo serving Croatia and Slovenia.

The cultural program will include a visit to the Rijeka City Museum – The Sugar Palace (<https://visitrijeka.hr/en/city-museum-of-rijeka-the-sugar-palace/>), which showcases the city's complex history and multicultural character.

CONFIRMED TRAINERS

Prof. dr. Vesna Crnić-Grotić
Committee of Experts, Council of Europe
University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law
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Dr. Miren Manias-Muñoz
Journalism Department, University of the Basque Country
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Prof. Jarmo Lainio
Professor emeritus, Stockholm University, Sweden
Committee of Experts, Council of Europe, member on behalf of Sweden

Dr. Noémi Nagy
MSCA/ERA Research Fellow, Institute for Ethnic Studies in Ljubljana, Slovenia
Associate Professor, Department of International Law, Ludovika University of Public Service,
Budapest, Hungary.
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Dr. Craig Willis
European Centre for Minority Issues / PLURILINGMEDIA Chair
<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0981-5068>

Ms. Vesna Alaburić
Media law expert and practitioner / Attorney at Law
Faculty of Political Science, University of Zagreb
<https://www.fpzg.unizg.hr/staff/vesna.alaburic>

FEES, TRAVELS, ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

The Training School does not have a participation fee.

Successful participants are required to book their travels themselves, by following the [COST guidelines](#), and will be reimbursed for their travel expenses 4-6 weeks after the completion of the Training School.

For accommodation, meals, and other expenses (including local transportation), participants will receive a daily allowance of 140 euros for each full day of the training, and up to a total of 196 euros for travel days if those days fall outside the official training dates. Please carefully read through the [COST Travel Reimbursement Rules](#) before booking.

Participants are responsible for booking their own accommodation. There are several hotels in Rijeka, but also a possibility to rent private accommodation and hostels.

Rijeka is accessible by planes (airports in Rijeka, Zagreb, Trieste), trains (including from Zagreb and Ljubljana, Slovenia) or buses. Local taxis and Uber are available to move around the city.

The venue of the Training School (University of Rijeka, Faculty of Law) is located at Hahlić str. 6, and it has a student canteen for breakfast and lunch. The city offers plenty of restaurants and bistros for every budget and taste.

You can find more information about reimbursements on the official [PLURILINGMEDIA website](#). Should you have questions after consulting the FAQ on the website, please get in touch with Laura Seben (Grant Holder Manager): seben@ecmi.de. It is also highly **advised to discuss travel plans in advance**, especially regarding car travel, or if receiving additional funding from another source.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Deadline for submission of applications: 16th January 2026

How to apply:

Send your CV and a motivation letter (up to 2 pages) as a combined PDF by e-mail to plurilingmedia@gmail.com.

The motivation letter should show:

- a) how the Training School relates to your previous work,
- b) how you are in contact with media in a minority language, either through your work, personal experience or academic interest,
- c) how you can contribute to the Training School (experience to be shared and learned from),
- d) how you expect the Training School to contribute to your future work.

Selection Criteria:

Relevance: how well the application addresses the objectives of the Action and Working Group 2 (Legislation & Standards).

Motivation: how well you describe your contribution to and expected outcome of the Training School for your work.

Quality of work: added value to the field of minority language media and law.

Excellence of applicant: academic background and qualifications, expertise in research directly relevant for the objectives of the Action or professional experience in the field.

If more than 12 applicants fulfill the selection criteria, the following additional criteria will be applied:

Gender balance: Gender should be evenly represented.

Regional balance: different countries should be represented; applicants from [ITC/NNC countries](#) are prioritized.

Age: Young researchers (below the age of 40) are given priority.

IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION

If accepted, you will be expected to attend all three days of the Training School. After the acceptance notification, each Trainee must register for an e-COST profile at <https://e-services.cost.eu> to receive an official invitation letter. Please note that reimbursement is only possible if the ticket was purchased after the official invite through e-COST. We also encourage Trainees to apply for membership to PLURILINGMEDIA and Working Group 2: <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA23105/#tabs+Name:Working%20Groups%20and%20Members+hip>

No later than 2nd of March, the accepted applicants need to confirm their participation, and by 15th of April confirm their travel details and accommodation. After the Training School applicants need to apply for reimbursements and their daily allowance in the e-COST system.

- Deadline for submission of applications: 16th Jan 2026
- Applicants will be notified by 16th Feb 2026
- Deadline for confirmation of participation: 2nd March 2026
- Deadline for confirmation of travel details and accommodation: 15th April 2026
- Training School: Monday 18th to Weds 20th May 2026 (arrival day Sunday 17th May)
- Deadline for reimbursement claims: June 5th 2026 (two weeks after the event)

If you have any questions regarding this call, feel free to contact Dr. Miren Manias-Muñoz, Leader of Working Group 2: miren.manias@ehu.eus

For questions about the e-COST platform or COST rules, please be in contact with Laura Seben: seben@ecmi.de

For more details on COST Action PLURILINGMEDIA (CA23105) please visit: <https://www.cost.eu/actions/CA23105/> / www.plurilingmedia.eu