It is an incontrovertible fact that, with the spread of English as a lingua franca (ELF), we are at present witnessing “an unprecedented linguistic situation” in which “a language has reached truly global dimensions, across continents, domains, and social strata… accelerated by the dramatic expansion of electronic communication through the internet” (Seidlhofer, 2011).

ELF as a contact language – with a sociolinguistic function, differentiated according to place, time, and context – is in constant growth and expansion. While it brings obvious advantages to its users as enabling them to ‘language’ across linguacultural boundaries, researchers in ELF also recognize that it also gives rise to different dilemmas that need to be addressed. ELF, for example, is inevitably involved in the socio-political, religious and economic issues that come up in the critical situations generated by unprecedented displacement and migration, where it is the principal, and sometimes the only means of interaction and mediation. In the field of education, an enlarged and increasingly diversified community of ELF speakers at universities, schools, and in occupational domains, raises questions as to how conventional ideas about the language are appropriate to this new situation.

ELF study is then a particularly significant one in the present globalized world and so creating occasions for international debate about its wider implications and the dilemmas it raises becomes a necessary task for academic and educational institutions to undertake. The International Symposium “ELF Emergence: Migratory flows, transient groups & communities of practice in educational settings” aims to provide the setting for such a debate whereby some of the most prominent figures in the field can exchange and discuss their ideas and findings.
OCTOBER 27th

h. 15.00 Opening session
Welcome address by the authorities
Sapienza Pro-Rector, Prof. Giuseppe Ciccarone
Rachel Launay, British Council Country Director Italy
Humanities Faculty Deputy Dean, Prof. Matilde Mastrangelo
Oriental Studies Dept. Director, Prof. Franco D’Agostino
Convenor and MC, Prof. Matilde Mastrangelo

PLENARIES
Chair: Prof. Maria Grazia Guido
(University of Salento)

h. 15.30 Prof. Em. Henry Widdowson
(University of London / University of Vienna)
ELF Positioning

h. 16.00 Q&A

h. 16.15 Prof. Barbara Seidlhofer
(University of Vienna)
On the scope of ELF research

h. 16.45 Q&A

h. 17.00 Prof. Em. Kurt Kohn
(University of Tübingen)
Developing ELF competence and speaker-learners’ internal curriculum

h. 17.30 Q&A

h. 17.45 Round up session

h. 18.15 Musical entertainment with Massimo Giuntoli, composer and performer

OCTOBER 28th

h. 15.00 Chair: Prof. Marina Morbiducci
(Sapienza University)

h. 15.00 Dr. Marie-Luise Pitzl
(Austrian Academy of Sciences / University of Vienna)
ELF and beyond: Describing emergent practices and Transient International Groups

h. 15.30 Q&A

h. 15.45 Prof. Maria Grazia Guido
(University of Salento)
Nigerian migrants’ ELF-mediated online interactions at the outset of Covid-19 pandemic lockdown: developing new economy processes of relexicalization and decategorialization

h. 16.15 Prof. Thomas W. Christiansen
(University of Salento)
The dynamics of Question/Answer moves in ELF spoken discourse in cross-cultural migration domains

h. 16.45 Prof. Pietro Luigi Iaia
ELF potential in international subtitling

h. 17.15 Prof. Mariarosaria Provenzano
(University of Salento)
Reformulating and translating the Italian decree-law ‘Rilancio 2020’ into ELF. Redefining competence and empirical perspectives in legal translation

h. 17.45 Q&A and round up session

h. 18.15 Musical entertainment with Claudia Pintaudi, harp

OCTOBER 29th

h. 15.00 Chair: Prof. Mary Wardle
(Sapienza University)

h. 15.00 Prof. Donna Hurst Tatsuki
(Kobe City University of Foreign Studies)
Model United Nations as an ELF community of practice: Preliminary insights from the MUN corpus of English

h. 15.30 Q&A

h. 15.45 Prof. Lucilla Lopriore (University of Roma Tre) with Prof. Alessandra Cannelli (University of Roma Tre) Dr. Valeria Fiasco (University of Roma Tre) and Dr. Silvia Sperti (University of Roma Tre)
Language teacher education in an ELF aware perspective: challenges and responses in emerging communities of practice

h. 16.45 Q&A

h. 17.00 Panel: All Plenarists of the three sessions

h. 18.15 Musical entertainment with Vincenzo Di Silvestro, violin, and Alessandra Lussi, piano & Farewell

Free registration at:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd4QGL8PLT3moLy7L18VucKVCfB3T7MBOyNvV6_WGxYQ/viewform