



LUND UNIVERSITY

Multilingualism as problem or resource?

Negotiating space for languages other than Swedish and English in university language planning

Källkvist, Marie; Hult, Francis M

2020

Document Version:

Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

[Link to publication](#)

Citation for published version (APA):

Källkvist, M., & Hult, F. M. (2020). *Multilingualism as problem or resource? Negotiating space for languages other than Swedish and English in university language planning*. 64. Abstract from ASLA-symposiet 2020, Göteborg, Sweden. <https://asla2020.files.wordpress.com/2020/04/asla-2020-abstraktbok-6.pdf#page=64>

Total number of authors:

2

General rights

Unless other specific re-use rights are stated the following general rights apply:

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
- You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
- You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal

Read more about Creative commons licenses: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/>

Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

LUND UNIVERSITY

PO Box 117
221 00 Lund
+46 46-222 00 00

Marie Källkvist & Francis M. Hult

Multilingualism as problem or resource? Negotiating space for languages other than Swedish and English in university language planning

In the Nordic countries, university language policy and planning (LPP) centers on balancing the use of the national language(s) vis-à-vis English (Gregersen, 2014), conceptualized as parallel-language use (Josephson, 2005; Bolton & Kuteeva, 2012). The strong presence of English leads to tension between language dominance and language diversity (Liyanage, 2018), and LPP research has paid less attention to diversity/multilingualism than to parallel-language use in the Nordic context. In the present study, we address this research gap by focusing on how space was negotiated in real time for languages other than Swedish and English during language-policy negotiations by a committee while they were drafting a language-policy document at a Swedish university. Using an ethnographic discourse analytic approach (Barakos & Unger, 2016; Hult, 2015) and applying Ruiz's (1984) orientations to language framework, we analyse transcribed audio-recorded language-policy committee meetings, textual data used in the meetings and ethnographic notes taken during meetings. Analysis reveals what languages were brought in to the negotiations to play a role in the University's language practices, and by whose agency they were brought in. The analysis further reveals that different languages were variously positioned as problem or resource, and that the problem and resource orientations were co-present in the policy negotiations.

References

- Barakos, E., & Unger, J. W. (2016). *Discursive approaches to language policy*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.
- Blommaert, J. (2007). Sociolinguistic scales. *Intercultural Pragmatics*, 4(1), 1-19.
- Bolton, K., & Kuteeva, M. (2012). English as an academic language at Swedish university: parallel language use and the 'threat' of English. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 33(5), 429-447.
- Gregersen, F. (Ed.). (2014). *Hvor parallel: Om parallellspråkighet på Nordens universitet*. Copenhagen: The Nordic Council of Ministers.
- Josephson, O. (2005). Parallellspråkighet. *Språkvård*, 1: 3.
- Hult, F. M. (2015). Making policy connections across scales using nexus analysis. In F. M. Hult & D. C. Johnson (Eds.). *Research Methods in Language Policy and Planning* (pp. 217-231). London: Wiley Blackwell.
- Liyanage, I. (2018). *Multilingual Education Yearbook 2018*. Berlin: Springer.
- Ruiz, R. (1984). Orientations in language planning. *NABE Journal*, 8, 15-34.