

Keynote 2:

[Anna Hatzidaki](#)

(National and Kapodistrian University of Athens)

Bridging emotions through languages

Across several studies examining emotional language processing in bilinguals, consistent findings suggest that L2 is not necessarily less emotional than L1, but bilinguals may experience emotional content in varied ways depending on context and language type. This talk will provide a discussion ground for that, considering findings for taboo and emotional word processing at the lexical and sentential level using behavioural measures and Event Related Potentials (ERPs). Results from these studies are interpreted as demonstrating a controlled and flexible response system operating in L2, where heightened emotional salience shapes emotional perception and expression, but is used flexibly across languages. Thus, the present view frames emotion in L2 not as a diminishing phenomenon but as a dynamic and context-dependent process.