

# MC Meeting @ Lisbon, Portugal

## Multi3Generation

### COST Action 18231

#### Outline

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- Participation Countries
- Agenda
- Status of the Action
- Some Statistics
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- Where are we?
- Towards delivering

#### Where do we want to go?

#### Financial Reporting

- WBP
- STSM
- Budget

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1. Welcome to Participants X
2. Verification of the presence of 2/3 of the Participating COST Countries X
3. Agenda
4. Status of Action
5. Update from the COST Association X
  - | COST SC Recommendations
6. Grand Period (GP2) Report
  - | Follow-up of MoU Objectives and Deliverables
7. Action Budget Status
  - | Administrative/Financial Reporting
  - | Action Budget Planning
8. MC Decisions by e-Votes
9. AOB

# MC Meeting Participation Countries

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- | 90 invitations were sent, which included all MC Members and MC Substitute from all COST participating Member Countries + some invitees
- | 47 members accepted the invitation to participate either in situ or online
- | 24 members declined invitation
- | 19 members did not reply to invitation
- | At least 2/3 of the Participating COST Countries are represented in this MC Meeting

# Agenda

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Figure: Agenda

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## Figure: Core Group Members

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**Figure:** MC Members, MC Substitutes, Observers, NNCs, and IPCs

# NNCs and IPCs

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**Figure: NNCs, and IPCs**

# Main Contacts

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## Figure: Policies

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## Figure: Policies

# COST SC Recommendations

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Comply with the COST Excellence and Inclusiveness Policy, in the implementation of the M3G Action:

- | The level of **involvement of Inclusiveness Target Countries (ITCs)** should be maintained and a plan should be developed and implemented to ensure full involvement of ITC representatives in all aspects of M3G's implementation
- | The level of **involvement of Early Career Investigators (ECRs)** should be maintained and the plans described in the proposal for ensuring ECR involvement should be implemented
- | The **gender balance should be maintained** and the plans described in the proposal for ensuring gender balance should be implemented

# GP2 Final Report

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- | This MC meeting will serve to finalise the GP2 WBP report documenting progress on the achievement of the Multi3Generation MoU objectives and deliverables that need to be submitted to COST (October 2021).
- | Review M3G leadership.

# Action MoU Objectives

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- | **Challenge** Foster an **interdisciplinary network of research groups** working on different aspects of Natural Language Generation (NLG), focusing on 4 themes: grounded multi-modal reasoning and generation; efficient machine learning algorithms, methods, and applications to NLG; dialogue, interaction and conversational LG applications; and exploiting large knowledge bases and graphs
- | **Research Coordination 1** Foster **knowledge exchange** by sharing of resources including semantic annotation guidelines, benchmarking corpora, machine learning and alignment tools.
- | **Research Coordination 2** Create **multimodal and multilingual benchmarks for NLG** involves experimenting with automatic mapping between existing resources, crawling of Web data, definition of annotation guidelines and launching of crowdsourcing campaigns for bigger datasets (also as games-with-a-purpose).

- | **Research Coordination 3** Facilitate interactions, collaborations, knowledge building and dissemination between M3G participants via online tools, as website, blogs, downloadable publications.
- | **Research Coordination 4** Promote the generation of novel ideas and introduce the new joint M3G discipline to other researchers.
- | **Research Coordination 5** Provide opportunities for joint research projects by M3G members on multi-task, multilingual and multi-modal processing during exchange visits of ECRs, and other activities that encourage young researchers to establish links with industry and more senior academics.
- | **Research Coordination 6** Disseminate the results of M3G through conferences, scientific and industrial gatherings, which will have substantial impact in the participating countries and beyond.

- | **Research Coordination 7** Create synergies between M3G participants via **joint publications** in books, journals and conferences, **reports** from working group meetings and **training materials** from training schools.
- | **Capacity Building 1** Strengthen the European **research on theory, methodology and real-world technology in NLG** particularly in the four M3G focus research themes.
- | **Capacity Building 2** Facilitate **international collaboration, networking and interdisciplinary community** fostering joint activities.
- | **Capacity Building 3** Drive scientific progress by **liaising extensively with industry and end-users**, and by **increasing joint collaboration and knowledge transfer** by the end of M3G.

# MoU Deliverables for GP2

1. In-depth analysis and review of methods for incorporating structured knowledge bases into NLG models
2. Literature review and state-of-the-art on linguistic theories combining linguistic and perceptual information in semantic representations
3. Cross-topic research roadmap identifying where research effort is most needed and the research challenges that need to be addressed
4. Repository of open source software for processing language and visual content, including a directory of sources of materials or components
5. Courseware of training and summer schools, including a short course on topics on ML for NLG for M3G members, and courses for the wider community
6. Reports on requirements surveys from end users as a shared resource for the community
7. System application demos available via the M3G website as education and training resources

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- | Deliverables addressed/accomplished
- | Outputs reached within M3G (partially) considered an achieved deliverable
- | Tasks considered part of the deliverables
- | Concrete next steps to have deliverables accomplished on time

# Where are we?

1. Participation in INGL 2020 general view on M3G presented by WG1 leader
2. Paper accepted **Language Resources and Evaluation** journal

- | Anabela Barreiro, Cristina Mota, Jorge Baptista, Lucília Chacoto, Paula Carvalho  
Linguistic Resources for Paraphrase Generation in Portuguese - A Lexicon-Grammar Approach

3. Papers under review **Language Resources and Evaluation** journal

- | Anabela Barreiro, Ida Rebelo-Arnold, Fernando Batista  
Parafrasário: A Paraphrasary of Expressions, Multiword and Phrasal Units in Portuguese

- | Verena Lyding; Lionel Nicolas; Claudia Borg; Lavinia Aparaschi; Anabela Barreiro; Jaka fibej; Gül<sup>3</sup>en EryiŞit; Corina Forascu; Karën Fort; Johannes Graën; Umair ul Hassan; 'pela Arhar Holdt; Anisia Katinskaia; Alexander König Iztok Kosem; Alice Millour; Johanna Monti; Christos Rodosthenous; Federico Sangati; Katerina Zdravkova; Yaakov HaCohen-Kerner  
Approaching Language Resource Curation by Crowdsourcing on Language Learners

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# Where do we want to go?

- | Reading Taskforce Survey and reading taskforce to tackle every important aspect of NLG

  - | State of the Art NLG

  - | Publications on International Events (Conferences, workshops, etc.)

  - | Book on Past, Present and Future NLG

  - | Other Publications

- | Webinars

  - | Where, how, and when do we want to disseminate thought webinars?

  - | Do we have any candidates for invited talks?

- | Topic Meetings

  - | List your favorite topics

  - | In which country / city can they take place? How many people will be invited?

  - | Characteristics/Profile of the participants

  - | Etc.

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# MC Decisions by e-Votes

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Figure: e-Votes

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## Figure: Work and Budget Plan

# Financial Reporting

- | Morphological typology awareness in multilingual NLP evaluation - 15 February 2021
- | Generating Counterfactual Explanation for Stance Classification Task - 1 January 2021
- | Generating fact-checking explanations in low-resource settings - 1 January 2021
- | Structured Multilingual Language Generation - 16 March 2020

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**Figure:** Budget spent on STSM

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- | Budget for STSM - not fully spent (€13,340)
- | Budget for ITC Conference Grants - not spent at all (€3,000)
- | Budget for Training Schools - not yet spent (€1,000)
- | **TOTAL €17,340 non-spent**
  - | e-vote number 6 – reallocation of the non spent budget for STSM and ITC Conference Grants to the Lisbon MC Meeting
  - | e-vote number 7 (ongoing) – shift back €1,580 for one more STSM in GP2

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- | The GP3 will start on 1st November 2021 and end on 31st October 2022
- | The estimated budget for our COST Action is **€174,900**, including Financial, Scientific and Administrative Coordination (FSAC).
  - | NOTE: the official confirmation of the above information and Action Grant Agreement signature is conditional to the signature of the contract between the European Commission and the COST Association. Following this signature, the grant period will be opened on e-COST.



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| Always update the tab "Outcomes" in the M3G website (each WG leader is responsible for sending updates of website content to the Website manager

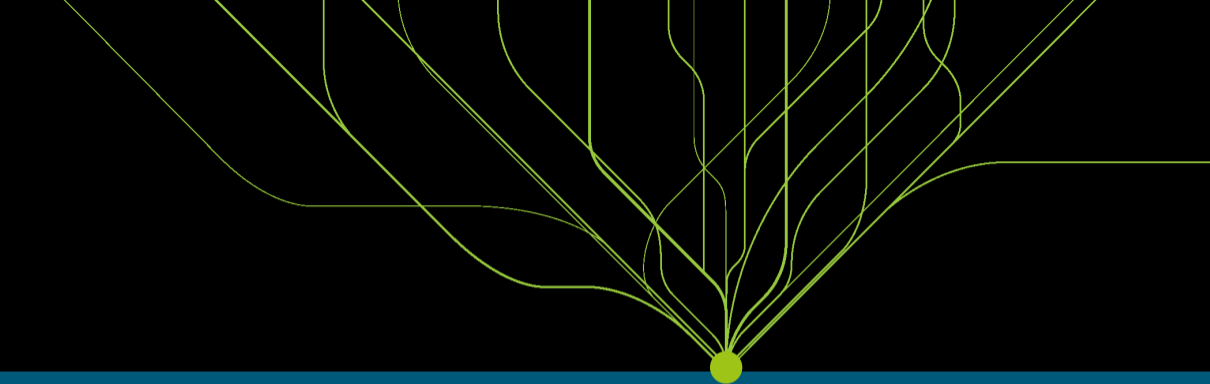
| GDPR form - consent to publish videos on the M3G website

| Leadership roles

| Sub-delegation of activities

| Assignment of (some) deliverables to specific individuals? E.g. Rotation of meeting Minutes writing

| Others...



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