

Call for papers for the international conference
Adaptation and Adaptability in Phraseography

in cooperation with EUROPHRAS

18-20 November 2026

Ca' Foscari University of Venice (Italy)

As part of the Excellence Project 2023-2027, the Department of Linguistics and Comparative Cultural Studies at Ca' Foscari University of Venice, in collaboration with the EUROPHRAS Association, is organising the international conference *Adaptation and Adaptability in Phraseography*. The primary aim of the conference is to foster the study of the diverse manifestations of the phenomenon of adaptation within the field of phraseography.

If we view adaptation as 'a form of repetition without replication' (Hutcheon & O'Flinn 2013: 8), it seems reasonable to consider this phenomenon inherent to both language and communication. Consequently, the study of adaptation should necessarily include all phenomena representative of linguistic variation. Moreover, it should encompass the changes observed when communication adapts to the medium, the intended recipient, and the communicative purpose.

When conceived this way, adaptation is also clearly evident within phraseography. This field of study connects lexicography and phraseology and pursues two main goals: the first, primarily theoretical, involves observing and analysing the presence of phraseological units in dictionaries. The second, more applied, concerns the development of lexicographical projects and tools that involve the lemmatisation of phraseology (Hallsteinsdóttir 2006, Giacomini 2012).

Considering these points, this conference aims, on the one hand, to explore the diverse manifestations of adaptation in existing phraseographical works. On the other hand, it seeks to contribute to the development of innovative studies and new research projects focused on adapting dictionaries to the languages, cultures, and users of the 21st century.

Proposals for presentations should address one or more of the following thematic areas, focusing on the study of adaptation in relation to phraseography:

1. Processes of change and innovation: the study of phraseological evolution and change in dictionaries from diatopic, diachronic, diaphasic, or diastratic perspectives.
2. Linguistic variation: analysis of orthographical, morphosyntactic, semantic, and lexical variations experienced by specific phraseological units, as observed across successive editions of one or more lexicographical works.

3. Lexicographical practice and user needs: the mechanisms and strategies employed in lexicographical practice for the lemmatisation of phraseological units and the inclusion of data that reflect the linguistic and communicative needs of native and non-native speakers.
4. Design and development: the design and creation of new phraseological dictionaries or other types of dictionaries that incorporate phraseology.
5. Pedagogical applications: the uses and benefits of phraseological dictionaries in the teaching of foreign languages.

References

Giacoma, Luisa (2012). *Fraseologia e fraseografia bilingue. Riflessioni teoriche e applicazioni pratiche nel confronto Tedesco-Italiano*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang.

Hallsteinsdóttir, Erla (2006). Phraseographie. *Hermes – Journal of Language and Communication Studies* 36, 91-128.

Hutcheon, Linda; O'Flynn, Siobhan (2013). *A Theory of Adaptation*, 2nd ed. London/New York: Routledge.

Conference Languages

The official languages of the conference will be English, Italian, and Spanish.

Presentations may also be delivered in French and German.

Submission

The deadline for the submission of abstracts (max. 500 words) for a presentation at the conference is 30th April 2026. The presentation formats are:

- Oral presentation (20 minutes)
- Workshop (60 minutes)

Submissions should be made by e-mail to europhras2026@unive.it, stating the format and language of the presentation.

Further information on registration and the conference fee, keynote speakers and practical questions will be available on the conference website (<https://www.unive.it/europhras2026>).

Important deadlines

- November 2025 – April 2026: submission of abstracts for presentations
- May 2026: notification of acceptance
- June – August 2026: registration with paper and without paper