

Mercator Multilingualism Lecture 2026

Multilingualism in vocational education and training (VET): An emerging field of inquiry

Dr Gabriela Meier
(University of Exeter)

Linguistically diverse societies and globalised economies have affected vocational education and training (VET) in various ways, but there is a disjoint between societal realities, VET policies and work practices.

Gabriela argues, on behalf of a team of authors, that the topic of multilingualism in VET is an emerging – albeit under-researched – strand of educational research.

She will share results from a narrative literature review, which encompassed the questions of how we got here, what our current understanding is, and where we should go next in terms of theory, practice, policy and research.

In this presentation, she will speak on the persistent misalignments between policy, theory and practice, and provide professionals and researchers with critically informed evidence and recommendations to support language-related decisions in VET.



About the speaker

Gabriela Meier (PhD) completed an apprenticeship in business administration (KV) and a BA in translation studies (ZHAW) in Zurich (Switzerland). Gaining a teaching qualification (University of Plymouth), as well as an MA and PhD in European Studies (University of Exeter, UK) led to her research interests: multilingualism in education, linguistic socialisation, and social cohesion. She is currently an Associate of the University of Exeter.

- Date: THURSDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2026
- Time: 16:00–17:00 CET
- Location: Online @Teams
- Language of the lecture: English

Attendance is free but registration is required.

You can register via [this link](#)
or by scanning the QR code:

