



Center for the Documentation of Endangered Languages

Opening and Groundbreaking Ceremony for the Digital Humboldt Language Archive

An event of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities

Academy building

Leibniz-Hall, Markgrafenstraße 38, 10117 Berlin

Registration until **06.09.** at: <https://bit.ly/3CCexta>

Wednesday

08.09.2021

3.00 p.m.

Free admission.

Registration required.

In the wake of globalization and urbanization, traditional languages will not survive in many parts of the world. Fewer and fewer children are learning the languages of their ancestors and when the intergenerational transmission is broken the language will disappear. Half of the approximately 7000 languages spoken worldwide are acutely endangered. Many of these languages have never been recorded and humanity is losing the centuries of accumulated knowledge and wisdom encoded in each and every language. Speaker communities, scholars and activists are stemming the tide by documenting their languages, preserving audiovisual recordings in digital archives and making them accessible globally.

Berlin is becoming a center for the documentation and preservation of endangered languages. The foundation is a major fellowship program funded by the Arcadia Fund over the next 10 years with 21 million Euros: the Endangered Languages Documentation Programme (ELDP). ELDP moved together with the digital Endangered Languages Archive (ELAR) from London to the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities. ELDP and ELAR form a cornerstone for the establishment of a Humboldt Language Archive, made possible by generous funding from the German Federal Minister of State for Culture and the Media. Wilhelm von Humboldt's work started 200 years ago will be continued in Berlin.

The Academy will celebrate the launch with an opening ceremony: Speakers will include Minister of State **Monika Grütters**, Director of ELDP and ELAR **Mandana Seyfeddinipur**, President of the Academy **Christoph Markschies** and Semitist **Shabo Talay**.

Impressions from the ELDP

Welcoming Address

Christoph Markschies

President of the Academy

Opening Remarks

Monika Grütters

German Federal Minister of State for Culture and the Media

Introduction

Christoph Markschies

President of the Academy

Shabo Talay

Free University Berlin

Project Presentation

Mandana Seyfeddinipur

ELDP and ELAR

Reception

The event will be held in German and English.

Further Informationen: Franziska Urban / franziska.urban@bbaw.de

Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Science and Humanities,
Jägerstraße 22/23, 10117 Berlin

Directions: S-Bahn to Friedrichstraße / U2 to Hausvogteiplatz or Stadtmitte / U6 Stadtmitte.
If you come by car, we recommend the use of the surrounding car parks.

 @bbaw_de

 www.facebook.com/bbaw.de