

PARSEME/UniDive annotation campaign on multiword expressions

- **Event title:** PARSEME/UniDive annotation campaign (task 1.2)
- **Dates:** September 2023 – September 2025
- **Co-leaders:**
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The [UniDive](#) COST action (task 1.2) and the [PARSEME](#) community are carrying on a **multilingual corpus annotation campaign** dedicated to multiword expressions (MWEs).

Three past PARSEME annotation campaigns were dedicated exclusively to verbal MWEs (VMWEs) and resulted in 4 editions of the [PARSEME corpus](#), which jointly covers **26 languages**. Three [PARSEME shared tasks](#) on automatic identification of VMWEs have been organized on the basis of this corpus and set the state of the art in the task.

The current annotation campaign covers MWEs of **all syntactic types** (including nominal, adjectival, adverbial and functional MWEs). It follows the spirit of **universality**. Namely, the [annotation guidelines](#) are unified across all participating languages, whenever possible, still leaving room for truly language-specific phenomena. This approach is expected to promote meaningful cross-language comparisons. The resulting corpus will be used in a [PARSEME/UniDive shared task](#) on identifying and understanding MWEs, submitted as a proposal for [SemEval 2026](#).

Teams

Each language should be annotated by a team on **native annotators** (except when this is not possible, e.g. in the case of extinct languages like Ancient Greek or Egyptian). A language team should consist of **at least 2 annotators** (including the Language Leader), for the sake of inter-annotator agreement estimation. It is possible to start annotating alone and recruit more annotators at a later stage (May 2025 at latest). See the [language teams](#) from past and present annotation campaigns.

Each language team should have at least one **Language Leader**. See the [call for Language Leaders](#).

Annotation work

For the [languages already present](#) in the PARSEME corpus, the agenda is to:

- Re-annotate the existing corpus with MWEs other than verbal. Annotating only part of the existing corpus is an option. In this case we recommend a **minimum of 2000 annotated MWEs** (so that each selected text is exhaustively annotated for all syntactic types of MWEs). A lower number of annotations can do but the system results are expected not to be representative.
- Add some **new texts** annotated from scratch (to counterbalance language model contamination from previously published data)

For [new languages](#), corpora will be annotated for all syntactic types at once.

Conversions from other MWE annotation schemes are fine, if curated so as to fit the PARSEME guidelines.

Timeline

- **[language leaders: 27 February]** Expression of interest from Language Leaders
- **[task leaders: late-February]** Creating FLAT accounts
- **[language leaders: mid-March]** Reading guidelines, reading the Language Leader guide, filling in MWE examples, recruiting annotators, selecting corpora
- **[all: March]** Pilot annotation
- **[shared task leaders: 31 March]** SEMEVAL shared task proposal
- **[language teams: April-May]** Annotation (including a double-annotated sample for inter-annotator agreement estimation)
- **[SEMEVAL: 19 May]** Notification about the selected shared task
- **[language leaders: June]** Consistency checks and inter-annotator agreement estimation
- **[shared task leaders: 15 July]** Sample data ready
- **[task leaders: July-August]** Consolidating and splitting the corpora
- **[WG3 shared task leaders: 1 September]** Training data for SEMEVAL

Documents and tools

- PARSEME/UniDive annotation campaign [master document](#)
- [PARSEME corpus wiki](#)
- [PARSEME annotation guidelines 2.0](#) and [what's new in version 2.0](#)
- [Language Leader's guide](#)
- [FLAT](#) annotation platform and [FLAT User's Guide](#)
- Minutes from [task 1.2 co-leaders' meetings](#)
- Minutes from [Language Leaders' meetings](#)

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