

PARSEME/UniDive annotation campaign on multiword expressions

- **Event title:** PARSEME/UniDive annotation campaign (UniDive WG1 task 1.2)
- **Dates:** September 2023 – September 2025
- **Co-leaders:**
 - [Voula Giouli](#), Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece
 - [Stella Markantonatou](#), Language and Speech Processing/ATHENA RC, Athens, Greece
 - Takuya Nakamura, Université Paris-Saclay, France
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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

- ~~[task leaders: 14 February]~~ [Call for Language Leaders](#)
- ~~[language leaders: 27 February]~~ Expression of interest from Language Leaders
- ~~[task leaders: late-February]~~ Creating FLAT accounts
- ~~[language leaders: mid-March]~~
 - Reading the [annotation guidelines 2.0](#)
 - Reading the [Language Leader's guide](#)
 - Filling in MWE examples in the guidelines
 - Recruiting annotators
 - Selecting corpora
- ~~[all: 28 March]~~ Pilot annotation, submitting [issues](#)
- ~~[shared task leaders: 31 March]~~ SEMEVAL 2016 shared task proposal
- ~~[SEMEVAL: 19 May]~~ Notification from SemEval about the selected shared tasks → rejected
- ~~[language teams: April-1 September]~~ Annotation for subtask 1 (PARSEME corpus)
 - Annotating the PARSEME corpus with all syntactic types of MWEs
 - Double-annotating a sample for inter-annotator agreement estimation
 - Consistency checks
- ~~[task leaders: 15 September]~~ Preparing the data for subtask 2
- ~~[language teams: 1 October]~~ MWE paraphrasing for subtask 2
- ~~[task leaders: 30 October]~~ Consolidating and splitting the corpora for both subtasks
- ~~[task leaders: autumn]~~ Shared task proposal

Documents and tools

- PARSEME/UniDive annotation campaign [master document](#)
- [PARSEME corpus wiki](#)
- Annotation guidelines
 - [PARSEME annotation guidelines 2.0](#)
 - [what's new in version 2.0](#)
 - [Gitlab issues](#) from the guidelines
- [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](#)

Language Leaders' meetings

Language Leaders meet weekly online during the annotation campaign. The timeline is the following:

- Tuesday 8 April 6 p.m. CEST
- Friday 18 April 9 a.m. CEST
- Friday 2 May 9 a.m. CEST
- Tuesday 6 May 6 p.m. CEST
- Friday 16 May 9 a.m. CEST
- Friday 30 May 9 a.m. CEST
- Tuesday 3 June 6 p.m. CEST
- Friday 13 June 9 a.m. CEST
- Friday 27 June 6 p.m. CEST
- Tuesday 1 July 6 p.m. CEST

We are using the recurrent [zoom link](#).

From:
<https://unidive.lisn.upsaclay.fr/> - **Universality, diversity and idiosyncrasy
in language technology
CA21167 COST Action**

Permanent link:
<https://unidive.lisn.upsaclay.fr/doku.php?id=wg1:wg1:task1.2:parseme-2.0-annotation-campaign&rev=1749802243>

Last update: **2025/06/13 10:10**

