Record Nr. UNINA9910349327503321

Titolo International Research on Multilingualism: Breaking with the

Monolingual Perspective / / edited by Eva Vetter, Ulrike Jessner

Pubbl/distr/stampa Cham:,: Springer International Publishing:,: Imprint: Springer,,

2019

ISBN 3-030-21380-3

Edizione [1st ed. 2019.]

Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (256 pages)

Collana Multilingual Education, , 2213-3216 ; ; 35

Disciplina 306.446

404.2

Soggetti Education and state

Multilingualism

Language and languages - Study and teaching

Language policy

Educational Policy and Politics

Language Education

Language Policy and Planning

Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese

Formato Materiale a stampa

Livello bibliografico Monografia

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Sommario/riassunto

This volume contributes to a better understanding of both psycho- and sociolinguistic levels of multilingualism and their interplay in development and use. The chapters stem from an international group of specialists in multilingualism with chapters from Austria, Canada, Germany, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain and the United States. The chapters provide an update on research on third language acquisition and multilingualism, and pay particular attention to new research concepts and the exploration of contact phenomena such as transfer and language learning strategies in diverse language contact scenarios. Concepts covered include dominant language constellations, mother tongue, germination factors and communicative competence in national contexts. Multilingual use as described and applied in the volume aims at demonstrating and identifying current and future challenges for research on third language acquisition and multilingualism. The third languages in focus include widely and less widely used official, minority and migrant languages in instructed and/or natural contexts, including Albanian, Arabic, Basque, English, French, German, Hungarian, Italian, Romanian, Spanish, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish, and Vietnamese, thereby mapping a high variety of language constellations.