Kolloquium Slawistische Linguistik Institut für Slawistik der Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin

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Spray-canned discourses: Investigating language, gender, and sexuality in the linguistic landscape of Athens and Belgrade

Wann? 25.01.2016, 16.15-17.45 Uhr Wo? Dorotheenstr. 65, Raum 5.57

Abstract

As linguistic beings, people occupy space producing language, endowing it with a distinctive character referred to by many as identity. Public and commercial signage, mottos, slogans, graffiti, and advertised commodities are typical ingredients of the linguistic landscape. Drawing on recent research in sociolinguistics and anthropology, the present paper focuses on the areas of Gazi/Kerameikos and Stadiou Street, in central Athens, as well as the Stari Grad area, in Belgrade, with the aim of investigating the role of language in the symbolic and ideological construction of space.