

DIS-AGREE

Project partners
Universities of Freiburg, Basel, Haute-Alsace and Strasbourg
Project duration / Awarded funding
01.04.2019 – 31.03.2021 / 35.692 €
Short description of the project
The aim of this international project in linguistics was to combine current research approaches at the four universities on the topic of “(dis)agreement & (dis)alignment” (i.e. conflict potential in discussions) and to further develop them with innovative methods in multimodality and multimedia. The concept of (dis)agreement is widely used in sociolinguistics and computer mediated communication; dis/agreement here is about the content side: I (dis)agree with something you say or write, or how you position yourself. Conversation analysis and cognitive linguistics tend to speak of alignment and disalignment; dis/alignment is about the action level: I (dis)align with what we are doing right now or what we are going to do next. The aim of the project was to revisit, elaborate on and expand the existing body of research on (dis)agreement and (dis)alignment and to further probe it in a variety of contexts, especially by bridging the gap between linguistic and multi-modal expression. Bringing together PhD students and supervisors from 4 EUCOR campus universities in 3 countries we strived at gaining a cutting edge to submit for further research funding at the end of the EUCOR funded period.
Concrete implementation of the project (What was the funding used for?) (max. 500 characters (including spaces))
The question of how people express their agreement or disagreement has been the subject of a variety of crossborder workshops on face-to-face and computer mediated interaction (non)fictional interactional scenarios; on caregiver-child interactions and on peer interactions in school contexts among others. Part of the grant was allocated to student assistant and administrators who have contributed purposefully to building multimodal databases.
Project result(s) and continuation of collaboration (max. 500 characters (including spaces))
Despite the adverse circumstances of the pandemic, valuable exchanges of ideas between researchers at the EUCOR universities were achieved in a variety of workshops both in presence and online. The scientific crossborder encounters resulted in applications for external funding on “CoAction”, submitted in 2022, and on “Alignment in Cargiver-Infant interaction”, which has resulted in a Cotutelle-PhD scholarship funded since 2021 by the Villigst Foundation.
Further information (links, articles, photos)