



## Preface and Acknowledgements

The seeds for this present volume were planted in pre-pandemic times, when it was still possible to physically gather groups of scholars in a room for lively discussion and exchange, without first submitting airflow contingency plans, distributing disinfection and test kits, checking vaccination statuses, or issuing mask mandates (or, all else failing, staging things entirely online). It was thus that on Saint Niklas' day in December of 2018, a group of thirteen keynote speakers, and a well-sized audience of peers, first convened in a conference room at the Austrian Academy of Sciences for three days of jointly exploring “Standard Languages in Europe: Attitudes & Perception”, as the conference was entitled.

The meeting was organized under the auspices of the Special Research Programme (‘SFB’) “German in Austria. Variation – Contact – Perception” (financed by the Austrian Science Fund FWF), and was further sponsored by the Austrian Academy of Sciences and the University of Vienna. The local organizing committee consisted of Alexandra N. Lenz (Austrian Academy of Sciences & University of Vienna), Wolfgang Koppensteiner (University of Vienna), Barbara Soukup (Austrian Academy of Sciences), and Rita Stiglbauer (University of Vienna), with Steff Moog serving as culinary executive. The keynote speakers were (in alphabetical order): Elisabeth Buchner (University of Salzburg), Stephan Elspaß (University of Salzburg), Anne-Sophie Ghyselen (Ghent University), Wolfgang Koppensteiner (University of Vienna), Alexandra N. Lenz (University of Vienna), Chris Montgomery (University of Sheffield), Nicolai Pharao (University of Copenhagen), Albrecht Plewnia (ids Mannheim), Christoph Purschke (University of Luxembourg), Unn Røynealand (University of Oslo), Regula Schmidlin (University of Fribourg), Barbara Soukup (Austrian Academy of Sciences), and Rebekka Studler (University of Basel).

Presentations and discussions from this conference are now precipitated in the form of this present volume.

First and foremost, we very cordially thank Nikolas Coupland and Tore Kristiansen, the SLICE series editors, for kindly allowing us to bring our endeavor into the folds of the SLICE book series, for their invaluable feedback and comments, and for their (as well as our authors’) patience with the process. We furthermore thank Jacob Thøgersen (co-editor of SLICE 3) for equipping us with a SLICE style sheet, as well as Susanne Schmalwieser, Marlene Lanzerstorfer and Paulina Huber of the University of Vienna for their assistance in editing the proofs. We are indebted to the FWF for financing a considerable part of our research, in the form of the above-

mentioned SFB “German in Austria” (FWF #F’60), but also Barbara Soukup’s research fellowship under the project “ELLViA – English in the Linguistic Landscape of Vienna, Austria” (FWF #V394-G23). And we are greatly and very gratefully indebted to our contributors to this volume, for bearing with us, and for allowing us to compile their compelling thoughts and writings on the topic of “Standard Languages in Germanic-Speaking Europe: Attitudes and Perception”. Thank you and enjoy!

Alexandra N. Lenz, Barbara Soukup and Wolfgang Koppensteiner  
Vienna, March 2022