**HERA Joint Research Programme**

**Application Template for a Project Idea**
to attend the Matchmaking Event on 29th January 2015 in Tallinn, Estonia

**Name and Organisation of the Applicant:** University of Latvia Agency “Latvian Language Institute of the University of Latvia”

**Title of the Project Idea:** A uniform approach to the phonological classification of the language sound systems and use of IPA

**The Project Idea should include the following elements:**

- **Part 1:** Project Idea description, structured as outlined below and not exceeding a maximum of 800 words in total.
- **Part 2:** a one-page CV of the proposer with up to 5 main publications and major project experience.

1.a **A short description of your Project Idea and its objectives**

Although the International Phonetic Alphabet is available for use in many years there are still misunderstandings applying it for transcription of words in dictionaries and other sources providing the pronunciation of words or phrases. It is evident that the problem is based on the different approaches when making the phonological classification of the sound systems of different languages. This is caused by different traditions coming from the past. Sometimes the problem is solved using the traditional pronunciation transcription system for a given language that can differ from country to country, and that makes it problematic to understand for representatives from other countries. It would be beneficiary to come to the common grounds for the uniform classification of the same phenomena in different languages, and to use the same transcription symbols for the same phonemes and suprasegmental units in all European languages. The classification of phonemes and suprasegmental features in its turn has to be based on objective results acquired during acoustic and/or articulatory studies. To achieve this goal the scientists of the European countries should agree on the uniform system/school of phonology to classify the sound inventories of their languages. Achieving this will allow to apply the same transcription rules to all the languages, thus making it much easier to learn other languages or use the pronunciation notations shown in dictionaries, travel handbooks etc. The goal can be achieved by connecting language specialists from different countries, and establishing the uniform approach by sharing the best experiences in data acquisition, interpretation and knowledge application.

1.b **Describe how the Project Idea:**

- Fits with the HERA Joint Research Programme theme “Uses of the Past”
- Is novel and original
- Has European added-value for trans-national collaboration: describe why it is essential to carry out the proposed research as a European collaboration

The Project Idea fits with the theme “Uses of the Past” by taking into account the discrepancies and misunderstandings caused by the traditional approaches, and by building a new common approach to the classification of the language sound systems allowing to take a look upon the sound systems from a perspective broader than national or language group specific. The new approach will have an added-value to trans-national collaboration via sharing the know-how and language data that have often been disregarded aiming the research at particular language or language group. The results acquired during the project can be later used in national linguistics,
speech pathology applications and language technologies.

2. **A one-page CV of the proposer** including up to 5 main publications and major project experience

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Juris Grigorjevs (Curriculum Vitae)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dr. philol.</strong> – issued in 2006 by University of Latvia (thesis – &quot;Latviešu valodas patskaņu sistēmas akustisks un auditīvs raksturojums&quot; i.e. &quot;Acoustic and Auditory Characteristics of the Latvian Monophthong System&quot;)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Senior Researcher</strong> at the University of Latvia Agency &quot;Latvian Language Institute of the University of Latvia&quot; – since 2013.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Main publications:**


**Project experience:**

- Project leader of the Latvian Council of Science Grant Project Nr. 07.2086 „Mūsdienu latviešu literārās valodas fonētika: Pilotprojekts: Latviešu valodas skaņu akustisks raksturojums” (Phonetics of the Contemporary Latvian Language: Pilot Project: the acoustic characteristics of the Latvian sounds), 2007 – 2008;
- Project leader of the Scientific Project of the University of Latvia Nr. 2007/ZP-18 and Nr. 2008/ZP-18 „Starptautiskās transkripcijas sistēmas izstrāde latviešu valodai” (Development of the International Transcription System for the Latvian Language), 2007 – 2008;
- Project leader of the final stage of the Latvian Council of Science Grant Project Nr. 09.1169 „Latviešu valodas gramatika 1959-2009” (Grammar of the Latvian Language 1959-2009), 2012.;
- Participant in the Lithuanian Council of Science Grant Project Nr. MIP-13138 (leader Dr. Jurgita Jaroslaviene) „Dabartinės baltų kalbos: spektrinės garsų charakteristikos (instrumentinis tyrimas)” (Contemporary Baltic Languages: Spectral Characteristics of the Sounds (instrumental study)), 2013 – 2015.

*Save this file in PDF format and upload it as part of your application to participate in the HERA JRP Uses of the Past Match Making Event.*