

INCOMMUNICABILITY OR IN COMMUNICATION?

Call for papers

In the age of technology, communication may have become possible at the push of a button. Etymology traces communication back to the Latin verb *communicare*, which means *to share*, an option that is available to all social media users. Sharing ideas, opinions, and experiences is, in fact, at the heart of twenty-first-century communication, which is still essentially created by language. Thus, successful communication rests primarily on the crucial action of transmission, which can, in turn, influence the delivery of the message in any discipline, be it literature, visual or auditory arts, journalism, translation, business, or information technology. Communication takes on several forms, such as written or spoken language, signs, drawing, and photography.

Because such means shape human existence and knowledge, it is challenging to talk only of communication without dealing with incommunicability as a natural consequence of one's inability to communicate information, emotions or thoughts. Indeed, some postmodern intellectuals tend to concentrate on the failure of individuals in organizing their experiences into communicable language because of its inherent chaotic nature, and others remain skeptical about technology's role in facilitating communication among people. An important question springs from this divergence: Are humans trapped in incommunicability or are they in communication?

Incommunicability or Communication: which will have the final say?

We invite abstracts for papers on the following research areas (the list is not exhaustive):

Arts (cinema; music; photography; etc.):

Communicating emotions through art

Expressing incommunicability through art

Social media and the manipulation of identity through words and images

Letters and Philosophy:

The sources of incommunicability and communication problems in language

The role of language in facilitating communication

Language as impediment to communication

Real vs. fictional communication in literature

Sociolinguistics and its role in solving incommunicability

Journalism and Political Science:

Communicating experience through journalistic work

Communication and media

Incommunicability of catastrophes and extreme experiences like war

Communicating events across different cultures through media

The challenges of live reporting

Ethic and communication

Social media: a means of communication or a channel for incommunicability

Translation:

Translation as a tool for communication

The challenges of translating modern texts

Sustaining communication among diverse cultures and languages

Incommunicability of foreign words and idioms

Business/Marketing:

The language of manipulation and communication

Communication through argumentation

Distorting the message to achieve marketing objectives

Controversy created by marketing language

Telecommunications:

Network communication and its challenges

Submission Requirements:

- Abstracts should begin with your name, ID, faculty and department, followed by key words relevant to your topic.
- Abstracts should be no longer than 300 words.
- Abstracts may be written in Arabic, French or English.
- Abstracts should be sent to flettres@usek.edu.lb
- **Deadline for submission: March 20, 2017.**

Review Process:

The committee will review the abstracts and send a response to the selected participants on March 31, 2017.

The final article should be between 1000 and 1500 words in length, and will be delivered in a 10-minute oral presentation on **April 19, 2017.**