

Lucie Břínková: *National Stereotypes in Sign Languages*

The workshop shall be based on the knowledge gathered by European cognitive ethnolinguistics, in particular on J. Bartmiński's studies related to conceptualization of the world based on stereotypes. Signs designating nationalities in various sign languages shall be addressed. Pilot research pursued on the Czech Sign Language has demonstrated that stereotyped views of and attitudes to individual nations may already be expressed in the form of a sign (the shape of a hand, articulation position, motion); that expressive designations are created by modification of a single or several parameters of a sign etc. A joint attempt shall be made to apply these principles on material originating from other sign languages. At the end, workshop participants should find and formulate stereotypes of selected nationalities operating in the pictures of the world represented by their national sign languages. The presumption is that the comparative aspect will be also interesting (whether individual stereotypes in the studied sign languages match or differ and, if the latter is the case, what the difference consists in).