

Short Bio



Silvia Piccini is a researcher at the Institute of Computational Linguistics (ILC-CNR) "Antonio Zampolli" in Pisa. After earning a degree in Classics and a doctorate in Baltic Linguistics, she specialised in computational lexicography and terminology. Specifically, she has significantly contributed to the development of terminological and ontological resources in multiple languages, including Latin, Greek, Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Italian, and French, as part of various national and international projects. These resources cover a broad range of specialized domains, such as astronomy, mathematics, philosophy, linguistics, and religion. Her research primarily focuses on the formal representation of terminological variation, with a particular interest on diachronic evolution and cultural dimension. Currently, she leads the RUT project, which aims at developing models and resources specifically related to the Hebrew and Somali languages. She also heads a research unit within the national PRIN project "Old Words for a New World. Translating Christianity to Baltic Pagans" devoted to exploring and formalising the terminological changes in the Baltic languages (Lithuanian, Latvian and Old Prussian) resulting from the conversion from Paganism to Christianity. Since June 2018, she has been an active member of the Cercle Ferdinand de Saussure, deeply engaging with Saussurean thought and its relevance to modern linguistic theory. In addition to her ongoing work in Baltic studies and general linguistics, she has recently expanded her interests to include standards in computational terminology. She is especially interested in integrating the TermBase eXchange (TBX) format and the OntoLex-Lemon model, to enhance the interoperability and semantic richness of terminological resources.

Description of activities during my stay at TALOS

During my stay at the Talos Laboratory, I will lead a hands-on workshop focused on the formalization of specialised knowledge by means of the software Protégé, with a special emphasis on modelling the linguistic dimension through the OntoLex-Lemon model, a *de facto* standard in Computational Lexicography for building linked data-based lexicographic resources in accordance with Semantic Web technologies. Participants will be guided through the process of formalizing domain-specific data, mainly drawn from Euclid's seminal work, Στοιχεῖα (*The Elements*). They will learn how to structure and represent complex concepts, while gaining a deeper awareness of the strengths and limitations of such formalizations. In addition to the workshop, I will deliver a plenary talk (provisional title: "Saussure's Terminology: Foundations and Contemporary Perspectives"). This presentation will explore the fundamental aspects of the terminology work conducted by the Genevan linguist, its influence and its formalisation in the computational lexicon SIMPLE_FdS.