

## **BIG Impact of a Small Island: Investigating the Development and Grammar of Bilectal Speakers**

Exploring neurocognitive adaptations to bilingualism involves addressing questions like the type of effects bi-/multilingualism may confer to different domains of cognition, the factors that drive such bilingual effects, the role of language proximity, and how that in turn may affect bilingual adaptations. Our research activities over the past decade demonstrate that Cyprus is in a unique position for many purposes (linguistically) and for many reasons (sociologically) to shed light on these questions. Focusing on object clitic placement by bilectal speakers of Cypriot and Standard Greek, I will present some of this research from children with both typical language development and language impairment as well as neurotypical adults. On the one hand, this body of work suggests to include bilectalism on a gradient scale of bi-/multilingualism; on the other hand, it may give rise to interesting questions about the underlying grammar of Cypriot Greek.