



# The ImpleMéndez Newsletter

COST Action CA22128 – Establishing Networks to Implement the Principles on Effective Interviewing for Investigations

#8 · August 2026

Welcome to the EIGHTH EDITION of the ImpleMéndez Newsletter of 2026!

WE ARE NOW 438 MEMBERS FROM 60 COUNTRIES

## Your ImpleMéndez Core Management (CM) Group

### Chair

Dave Walsh

### Vice-Chair

Yvonne Daly

### Special coordinators

Science Communication Co-ordinator

**Kristjan Kask**

Grant Awarding Co-ordinator

**Ivar Fahsing**

### WG1

#### Investigation and Interviewing

Leader: Lennart May

Co-leaders: Linda Geven, Telma Sousa Almeida, Becky Milne, Miet Vanderhallen

### WG2

#### Law, Human Rights, Criminal Justice

Leader: Anzelika Baneviciene

Co-leaders: Zeynep Reva, Denis Solodov, Ondrej Pavelek

### WG3

#### Vulnerability

Leader: Lore Mergaerts

Co-leaders: Hanna Lahtinen, Laura Pajon

### WG4

#### Institutional & Governmental Leadership

Leader: Vasylyna Yavorska

Co-leaders: Martijn van Beek, Olafur Bragason, Monty Mountford

### NEWS

## Méndez Principles featured in global perspectives on refugee protection

August 2026

The Centre for the Study of Emotion and Law's work on the Méndez Principles has been featured in a global perspectives article marking the 75th anniversary of the Refugee Convention. Full article on the next page.

### UPCOMING EVENT

## WG2 Webinar: The Méndez Principles and the Role of the Lawyer

8 September 2026

ImpleMéndez and the European Criminal Bar Association invite you to a one-hour online webinar on the Méndez Principles and the role of lawyers in investigative interviews.

### OPPORTUNITY

## 1st Call for Papers: IAFLP Porto 2027

Deadline: 30 Nov 2026

The University of Porto will host the 18th Biennial Conference of the International Association for Forensic and Legal Linguistics, 12–16 July 2027. See the calls for papers inside.

## NEWS

## Méndez Principles featured in global perspectives on refugee protection

August 2026

The Centre for the Study of Emotion and Law's work on the Méndez Principles has been featured in a global perspectives article published by the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants to mark the 75th anniversary of the Refugee Convention.

The article highlights the importance of humane, trauma-informed and scientifically grounded interviewing in asylum procedures. It explains how the Méndez Principles can support the reliable gathering of information during high-stakes interviews with vulnerable people, while upholding legal and ethical standards.

Read the full article [here](#).

## UPCOMING EVENT

## Child Interviewing Half-Day Seminar at the Irish Méndez Centre for Investigative Interviewing

4 September 2026

The Irish Méndez Centre for Investigative Interviewing is hosting a half-day, in-person seminar on child interviewing at Dublin City University on Friday 4 September 2026. Speakers include ImpleMéndez members Sigrid Buseth and Dr Francesco Pompedda, along with Dr Rosaleen McElvaney. Dr McElvaney, a Consultant Clinical Psychologist, Psychotherapist and university lecturer, will focus on child victims who are reluctant to disclose, sharing insights from her extensive experience working as a practitioner in specialist sexual abuse services. Ms Buseth, a retired Norwegian police investigator who currently works with the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights and delivers training at the Norwegian Police Academy, will focus on interviewing child suspects, outlining practical guidelines that she has developed, with others, for interviewing suspect children and vulnerable adults. Dr Pompedda, a Senior Researcher at the INVEST Research Flagship Center at the University of Turku in Finland, will focus on police training for interviewing children and the potential value of avatar-based training systems in particular.

Co-Directors of the Irish Méndez Centre, Prof. Yvonne Daly and Dr Alan Cusack, are very grateful to these experts for travelling to Dublin to share their expertise. Over 100 interviewers from An Garda Síochána (the Irish police) and Tusla (the Child and Family Agency) have registered to attend.

## UPCOMING EVENT

## WG2 Webinar: The Méndez Principles and the Role of the Lawyer in Investigative Interviews

8 September 2026

ImpleMéndez and the European Criminal Bar Association invite practitioners, researchers and other interested professionals to an online webinar exploring the Méndez Principles and the role of lawyers in investigative interviews.

The one-hour session will be facilitated by Professor Yvonne Daly, Vice-Chair of ImpleMéndez, in discussion with two experienced criminal lawyers: Lucy Reynolds from the United Kingdom and Katarzyna Dąbrowska from

Poland.

The discussion will consider the Méndez Principles from the perspective of legal practitioners and address practical questions arising during investigative interviews. Topics will include support for vulnerable interviewees, audio-visual recording, pre-interview disclosure, lawyers' interventions during interviews, the distinction between witness and suspect status, restrictions on lawyers' attendance, and the participation of lawyers representing injured parties.



The speakers bring extensive expertise in criminal law, evidence, criminal procedure, police-station representation, complex investigations, white-collar crime, extradition and compliance. Their combined academic and professional perspectives will provide an opportunity to examine how effective interviewing principles operate in practice and what they mean for lawyers participating in investigative interviews.

The webinar will take place on **Tuesday, 8 September 2026 at 17:00 GMT / 18:00 CEST**, online via Microsoft Teams. The Teams link has been circulated to ImpleMéndez members.

## Calls for papers

### OPPORTUNITY

## IAFLL Porto 2027

Deadline: 30 November 2026

The 18th Biennial Conference of the International Association for Forensic and Legal Linguistics (IAFLL) will take place at the University of Porto, Portugal, from **12-16 July 2027**, on the theme *Disruptive Scenarios, Epistemological Challenges, and Improved Scientific Standards*. It will be held in person at the Faculty of Arts and Humanities of the University of Porto; online attendance is not planned.

IAFLL Porto 2027 will address the rapidly changing landscape of forensic and legal linguistics, including generative AI, synthetic voices and deepfakes, authorship attribution, forensic phonetics, cybercrime, online identities, disinformation, investigative interviewing, the Méndez Principles, linguistic disadvantage before the law, courtroom interpreting and translation, hate speech, expert linguistic evidence and computational approaches. Submissions are invited for individual papers and posters, with topics including, among others:

- legal language and legal discourse;
- courtroom, police and prison communication;
- investigative interviewing and vulnerable witnesses;
- language minorities, linguistic rights and access to justice;
- forensic phonetics and speaker identification;
- authorship analysis and forensic stylistics;
- disputed meanings, trademark disputes and plagiarism;
- deception, fraud and cybercrime;
- computational and multimodal forensic linguistics;
- ethics and scientific standards in forensic linguistic practice.

*Working languages:* English, Portuguese and Spanish. *Deadline:* **30 November 2026**. *Notification of acceptance:* **10 January 2027**. Each author may participate as author or co-author in a maximum of two submissions, and abstracts should not contain the author's name, affiliation or email address.

Submit via [OpenReview](#). For submission-related enquiries: [forensic.linguistics@letras.up.pt](mailto:forensic.linguistics@letras.up.pt).

## OPPORTUNITY

## XIXth International Victimology Symposium, Montreal

14-18 June 2027

The call for papers is now open for the XIXth International Victimology Symposium of the World Society of Victimology (WSV), which will take place in Montreal, Canada, from **14-18 June 2027**. Under the theme *Transforming Justice*, the 2027 Symposium will bring together researchers, practitioners, policymakers, justice professionals, victim advocates and survivors from around the world.

For more than 50 years, the World Society of Victimology has provided a leading international forum for research and discussion on victims of crime, abuse of power and victimization. The 2027 Symposium will highlight cutting-edge research, innovative policies and promising practices aimed at advancing victims' rights, access to justice, healing and the prevention of revictimization, offering an opportunity to exchange ideas, establish international collaborations and contribute to the future of victim-centred research, policy and practice.

More information [here](#), and submit a proposal [here](#).

## The Reminder

Those submitting a paper for publication should follow the COST Annotated Rules to ensure proper recognition of COST funding. Use the following formula:

*This article is based upon work from COST Action CA22128 (ImpleMéndez), supported by European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST).*

Newsletter prepared by

**Sofia Meneses-Silva · Denis Solodov**

*Share your achievements with us!*

[anasofsilva14@gmail.com](mailto:anasofsilva14@gmail.com)

[denis.solodov@uwm.edu.pl](mailto:denis.solodov@uwm.edu.pl)