Open Linguistics invites manuscripts for the Special Issue on Lexical constraints on grammatical relations: Minority verb classes and restricted alternations.

In many languages grammatical relations are to some extent lexically restricted, in the sense that certain verbs or verb classes take different argument coding frames than others, show different morphological patterns than others, or permit different construction alternations than others. Some restrictions are absolute, and some are a matter of (statistical) preference. Such constraints, well studied for “non-canonical” case marking (e.g. Tsunoda 1985, Aikhenvald et al. 2001, Bickel et al. 2014, Malchukov & Comrie 2015), have also been reported for grammatical relations defining other types of constructions, including a range of voice- and valency-related constructions (e.g. Polinsky 2013, Vigus 2018, Olthof et al. 2020, Van Lier & Messerschmidt in press) and argument indexation (Fedden et al. 2013, 2014), as well as some clause-combining constructions (Van Gijn 2011). Moreover, researchers are now adopting quantitative approaches that address statistical preferences, well-established in literature on the English dative alternation (e.g. Gries & Stefanowitsch 2004, Bresnan et al. 2007, Bresnan & Nikitina 2009), in an ever-wider array of languages and/or syntactic alternation phenomena (e.g. Faghiri 2016, McDonnell 2016, Riesberg et al. 2021).

This special issue follows from the workshop “Lexical restrictions on grammatical relations” (March 2021), which showcased studies on a range of morpho-syntactic constructions, including alignment and argument indexing and voice/valency marking, as well as in verbal paradigms and in relativization. We invite contributions on these topics that cover a range of genetically and geographically varied languages, and adopt different perspectives: synchronic or diachronic, comparative or typological studies.

HOW TO SUBMIT

The authors are kindly invited to submit their contribution via the online submission system Editorial Manager available at: https://www.editorialmanager.com/opli/default.aspx

Please select the Category “SI Lexical constraints on grammatical relations” to ensure that the manuscript is processed by the Guest Editors.

It is important that authors include a cover letter with their manuscript. The cover letter should explicitly state that the manuscript (or one with substantially the same content, by any of the authors) has not been previously published in any language anywhere and that it is not under simultaneous consideration or in press by another journal.
Before submission the authors should carefully read over the Instructions for Authors, which are located at: degruyter.com/publication/journal_key/OPLI/downloadAsset/OPLI_Instructions%20for%20Authors.pdf

Submission of a manuscript does not necessarily imply approval for its publication in this Open Linguistics special issue. The manuscript will be subjected to a peer review procedure managed by our esteemed Guest Editors and its acceptance will depend on this assessment.

We are looking forward to your submission up to December 31st 2021. If you have any questions, please contact Pegah Faghiri (p.faghiri@uva.nl)/Katherine Walker (k.walker@uva.nl) or Katarzyna Inga Michalak katarzyna.michalak@degruyter.com.