

FOREWORD

In the 25 years lapsed since the foundation of the Department of Foreign Languages for Specific Purposes at the Faculty of Letters, Babeş-Bolyai University, the educational, socio-political and cultural contexts of learning and teaching modern languages in Romania have shifted at such a pace that it has become rather difficult to predict future changes. Though mainly concerned with (very) local issues regarding the teaching and testing procedures of LSP and LAP students at Babeş-Bolyai University, the Department has always been anchored in both internal and external *realities*: the international (European) standards of quality language education, national financing, institutional strategies and priorities, the demands of the rapidly-changing labor market, the profile of the new generation of language users etc.

Language Policy documents vary across geographical and cultural space and they reflect the ways in which language experts understand their roles as agents of change inside and outside their institutions. Dedicating a special issue of *Studia Universitatis Babeş-Bolyai Philologia* to the relevance of language policies nowadays naturally stems from the desire of the members of this Department to impart their vision to fellow practitioners and researchers in the fields of languages for specific purposes, communication, educational technologies, applied linguistics, translation and literature.

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