

CONFERENCE PROPOSAL FORM

Full Name	Ms. Karima ASSASLA
Degree/ Title	PhD candidate
Department/ Faculty	Faculty of Letters and Languages, Department of English
University	Mohamed Khider University of Biskra
Phone	06.67.15.07.20
Email	karima.assasla@univ-biskra.dz
Selected track	Other topics that fit the conference main objectives.
Title of paper	Revisiting the Role of the Arabic Language in Teaching and Learning English as a Foreign Language in Algeria: Reflections on the Algerian Experience with the French Language.
Abstract (Max 300 words)	<p>This paper examines the role of the Arabic language in facilitating the learning and teaching of foreign languages particularly English in Algeria. The Arabic language was introduced into Algeria since the arrival of Islam in North Africa in the 7th century. This language was highly respected and appreciated by the native inhabitants because it was the language of Islam and its Holy Quran. Accordingly, its spread was fast and pervasive. However, disastrously, the French colonization of the country in 1830 was aimed at the total eradication of the native culture and languages and the planting of that of the colonizer. Consequently, Arabic language use was fatally impacted. Eventually, while the Arabic language was declared as the first official language of the country following independence, the French colonial language was set as the first foreign language. Surprisingly, the majority if not all of the Algerian teachers of French language forbade themselves and their students from any kind of code-switching (into Arabic language) in their French language classes. This way they were (intentionally or unintentionally) adopting the same colonial teaching policy. As a consequence, the role of the Arabic language as a facilitator of foreign language teaching and learning was neglected and the same mistake was and is repeated with the teaching and learning of the English language. Through a descriptive analytical method, this paper revises the claim that code switching into the Arabic language constrains foreign language teaching and learning, and it also reasserts the role of the Arabic language as an effort and time saver, and a facilitator of English language teaching and learning from primary schooling to higher education.</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
Key words (Max 5 words)	The Algerian educational system, foreign language teaching, foreign language learning, the Arabic language, code-switching.