1. RECENT TRENDS IN TRANSNATIONAL ADOPTION

- The Hague’s Convention on protection of children (1993) triggered a paradigm shift from a « clean break » with the past to the child’s right to a culturally rooted identity (www.hcc.ch).
- European Parliament defines adoption as a « welfare and protection measure that enables an orphaned or definitively abandoned child to benefit from a permanent family » (www.european-eparliament.eu).
- From 2004 there is a decrease of international adoption due to economical crisis in receiving countries, a greater attention on transparency and a growing mistrust towards transnational adoption resulting in the definitive abandonment of children to benefit from a local family (www.commissioneadozioni.it).
- Italy is one of the first receiving countries in Europe (>2000 adoptive families per year), 41% of adopted children being school-aged (www.commissioneadozioni.it).

2. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

GENERAL QUESTIONS:
How can language strategies (and intercomprehension) help mothers of adoptive families: a. during the mobility to the country of adoption? b. to build up family communication from scratch? c. to create the conditions for an inclusive participation to family life?

SPECIFIC QUESTIONS (RT4.4):

a. How does intercomprehension intervene in the child’s transition from his L1 to his L2? b. Which are the factual criteria on which complementarity of mediation strategies rely in the adoptive parents’ experience of mobility? c. What is the role of intercomprehension in family communicative processes?

3. METHODOLOGY

CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDY:

METHODOLOGY: ethnographic interviews (emic approach)
PARTICIPANTS: 20 participants + 15 children
TIME SPAN: February 2015
METHOD: Interpretative Content Analysis
STAKEHOLDER: Centro Adozioni Aulia 9 di Verona (Adoption Public Authority)

LONGITUDINAL STUDY:

METHODOLOGY: observation of interactional data (etic approach)
PARTICIPANTS: 5 families
TIME SPAN: May-July 2016 (FAMILY 1) September-November 2016 (FAMILY 2) September-November 2017 (FAMILY 3)
METHOD: Discourse analysis
STAKEHOLDER: Fondazione Patrizia Nidot ÖNÜLS (Private Agency)

4. THE CHILD

INTERCOMPREHENSION AS A BUFFER STRATEGY

NON-MUTUALLY INTELLIGIBLE LANGUAGES

CHILD’S L1 → INTERLANGUAGE → CHILD’S L2

MUTUALLY INTELLIGIBLE LANGUAGES

CHILD’S L1 → INTERLANGUAGE → CHILD’S L2

INTERCOMPREHENSION

5. THE PARENTS

MOBILITY AND THE COMPLEMENTARITY OF MEDIATION STRATEGIES

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<th>OFFICIAL MEETINGS (WITH INSTITUTIONS)</th>
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<th>PRIVATE EXCHANGES (WITH THE CHILD)</th>
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LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGIES

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LINGUA FRANCA

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6. THE FAMILY

INTERCOMPREHENSION AND CHILD’S INCLUSION

7. REFERENCES


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