Call for Multilingual Inclusiveness in Science and Disaster Research and Contexts Studies: Journal of Disaster Studies Responds

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Call for Multilingual Inclusiveness in Science and Disaster Research and Contexts Studies

Journal of Disaster Studies Responds

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Abstract: *Multilingualism in science is crucial for stimulating knowledge production, circulation, and dissemination. It enriches disciplinary frames and perspectives on societal issues, reflecting the cultures and ontologies of scientific communities and their engagement with local agendas. It is also a key issue of social justice and linguistic human rights because it expands the participation and dialogue among diverse communities of scientists and influences stakeholders who use science to address urgent global issues. Systematic and sustained implementation of multilingual scholarly communication and peer-reviewed publishing is cumbersome for journal management platforms, research teams, and editorial boards. Organizational and technical tasks usually override investment in diversifying frames and perspectives in journals, books, and conferences. Despite critiques of monolingualism and serious commitments to disseminate research output across differ-ent geographies, disaster research has continued to be conceptualized and communicated primarily in English. There is an enormous challenge in revising the categories that have shaped disaster management and communication, as well as standard practices of translation and interpretation that have magnified the vulnerability experienced by ethnic minorities and non–English speaking groups. This Research Note attempts to couple current views on multilingualism in*

science and disaster studies and proposes the first statement of the Journal of Disaster Studies *(JDS) on inclusive multilingualism. The* JDS *Editorial Collective hopes this initiative will foster further investment in multilingualism across disaster research and publishing.*

Keywords: *multilingualism; disaster studies; disaster communication; multilingualism in science; scholarly communication; intercultural communication*

Resumen: *El multilingüismo en la ciencia es crucial para estimular la producción, circulación y difusión del conocimiento. Enriquece los marcos disciplinarios y las perspectivas sobre cuestiones sociales, reflejando las culturas y ontologías de las comunidades científicas y su compromiso con las agendas locales. También es una cuestión clave de justicia social y derechos humanos lingüísticos porque amplía la participación y el diálogo entre comunidades diversas de científicos e influye en grupos de interés que utilizan la ciencia para abordar problemas mundiales urgentes. La implementación sistemática y sostenida de la comunicación académica multilingüe y la publicación revisada por pares es, sin embargo, engorrosa para las plataformas de gestión de revistas, equipos de investigación y consejos editoriales. Las tareas organizativas y técnicas suelen primar sobre la inversión en la diversificación de marcos y perspectivas en revistas, libros y conferencias. A pesar de las críticas al monolingüismo y de los serios compromisos para difundir los resultados de la investigación en diferentes zonas geográficas, la investigación sobre desastres se ha seguido conceptualizando y comunicando principalmente en inglés. Hay un enorme desafío relacionado a revisar las categorías que configuran la gestión y comunicación de desastres, así como las prácticas habituales de traducción e interpretación, que a menudo han magnificado la vulnerabilidad experimentada por minorías étnicas y grupos no anglófonos. La presente nota de investigación intenta aunar las opiniones actuales sobre el multilingüismo en la ciencia y los estudios de desastre, y propone la primera declaración del Journal of Disaster Studies (JDS) sobre el multilingüismo inclusivo. El Colectivo Editorial del JDS espera que esta iniciativa fomente una mayor esfuerzo en el multilingüismo en la investigación y publicación sobre desastres.*

Palabras clave: *Multilingüismo, estudios sobre desastres, comunicación sobre desastres, multilingüismo en la ciencia, comunicación académica, comunicación intercultural.*

초록: 과학 분야의 다언어 구사 능력은 지식 생산, 유통, 전파를 촉진하는 데 매우 중요하다. 과학 공동체의 문화와 존재론, 지역 의제에 대한 참여를 반영하여 사회 문제에 대한 학문적 틀과 관점을 풍부하게 하기 때문이다. 또한 다양한 과학자 공동체의 참여와 대화를 확대하고 긴급한 전지구적 문제를 해결하기 위해 과학을 사용하는 이해관계자들에게 영향을 미치기 때문에

사회 정의와 언어 인권의 핵심 문제이기도 하다. 그러나 다언어 학술 소통과 동료 심사 출판을 체계적이고 지속적으로 구현하는 것은 학술지 관리 플랫폼, 연구진, 편집위원회에게 번거로운 일이다. 이에 조직적이고 기술적인 업무가 저널, 책, 학술대회의 틀과 관점을 다양화하기 위한 투자보다 우선시되는 것이 일반적이다. 단일 언어주의에 대한 비판과 다양한 지역에 연구 결과를 보급하려는 많은 노력에도 불구하고, 재난 연구는 주로 영어로 개념화되고 전달되어 왔다. 소수 민족과 비영어권 집단이 겪는 취약성을 확대해오기도 한 번역 및 통역의 표준 관행뿐만 아니라 재난 관리 및 소통을 형성해온 범주를 수정하는 것은 여전히 엄청난 도전이다. 본 연구노트는 과학과 재난 연구에서 다언어에 대한 현재의 견해를 결합하고 포용적 다언어에 대한 재난학 저널 (*JDS*)의 첫 번째 성명서를 제안한다. 재난학 저널 편집위원회는 본 이니셔티브가 재난 연구 및 출판 전반에 걸쳐 다언어에 대한 투자를 촉진하기를 희망한다.

키워드: 다언어주의, 재난 연구, 재난 소통, 과학분야의 다언어주의, 학술 소통, 문화 간 소통

Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic illustrated the complex paradox of using English as the lingua franca in science, global crises, and international emergencies. While researchers made unprecedented advances in vaccine science, public health, and epidemiology, disseminating their findings in anglophone peer-reviewed journals (Malekpour et al. 2021; Sekalala et al. 2021), many non–English speaking countries encountered substantial obstacles in accessing these cutting-edge discoveries or sharing their own (Wouters et al. 2021). This uneven production, accessibility, and dissemination of the best available science (Illari, Restrepo, and Johnson 2022) may have contributed to the unequal distribution of human fatalities across different regions (Levin et al. 2022). The assumption that knowledge presented in English would be readily understood, communicated, and wisely adopted by non–English speaking governments, decision makers, and expert communities proved flawed (Méndez, Flores-Haro, and Zucker 2020; Taşkı et al. 2020; Ayre et al. 2022). With the World Health Organization's declaration marking the end of the COVID-19 global health emergency (United Nations 2023), there has been renewed consideration of the arduous process of translating and adapting information in English in multiple governmental, scientific, and societal spheres that will prepare us for future global pandemics, transnational disasters, and crises (Piller, Zhang, and Li 2020; Ahmad and Hillman 2021; Arnaldi, Engebretsen, and Forsdick 2022; Uekusa 2022).[1]

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1 Perhaps surprisingly, although there has been attention to English-language dominance in global health scholarship (Pakenham-Walsh 2018; Raca, Boum, and Wachsmuth 2019; Saha et al. 2019; Hommes et al. 2021), it has not been at the center of calls for "decolonizing global health" (Abimbola and Pai 2020; Abimbola et al. 2021; Kwete et al. 2022; McCoy et al.

Since 2015, a chorus of voices has advocated for multilingualism in science through myriad international and regional initiatives (Federation of Finnish Learned Societies et al. 2019; UNESCO 2021), declarations (BOAI20 2022; Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales 2022), and manifestos (Hicks et al. 2015; Remesal 2016; Disaster Studies Manifesto 2019; Kohl et al. 2020), exposing the complex dimensions of multilingualism in governance, data management, infrastructure accessibility, dissemination of scientific research outputs, gender, and justice. Some journals have responded to this momentum by editing and publishing issues and articles in different languages (Mironescu, Moroşanu, and Bibiri 2023; Packer 2024),[2] though it is hard to assess whether they are trying to reach global audiences or are committed to decolonizing science from the English language and its cascading power relations (Clarke et al. 2024). Some researchers from different disciplines have further developed critical perspectives on the overarching presence of English in funded research, scientific assessments, peer-reviewed journals, and scientific instruction (Sivertsen 2018; Nygaard 2019; Steigerwald et al. 2022). They argue that the systemic dominance of English has isolated scholarly production in non-English languages and undercut the dissemination of research results to other-than-English-speaking communities and governments (Márquez and Porras 2020). The dominance of English is also compounding, increasing journal policies enforcing English-only or English-preferred submissions (Hicks et al. 2015; Cernicova-Buca 2021).

The ubiquitous use of English in science also shapes how local, regional, and transnational crises, emergencies, and disasters are managed and prioritized. This has exacerbated vulnerability and socioeconomic disparities between non-English speakers and the anglophone world (World Health Organization 2021), deepening the asymmetrical distribution of efforts and access to information for ethnic and linguistic minorities in preparation, response, recovery, and mitigation phases of disasters (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies 2018; O'Brien et al. 2018; Alexander and Pescaroli 2019). Linguistic vulnerability puts these groups at higher risk of socioenvironmental hazards, disproportionately affecting their property, economic security, and health, including mental health

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2024). Instead, language has been seen as a representation of continuing larger colonial power imbalances rather than "the fundamental issue" (Hommes et al. 2021, Abimbola 2019).

2 These efforts have been modestly but significantly extended to Indigenous languages. See journals such as *Living Languages • Lenguas Vivas • Línguas Vivas*, *Acadiensis: Journal of the History of the Atlantic Region / Revue d'histoire de la region atlantique*, or *Indilinga African Journal of Indigenous Knowledge Systems*.

(Arlikatti, Taibah, and Andrew 2014; Benevolenza and DeRigne 2019; Uekusa 2019; Trujillo-Falcón et al. 2021). These disparities exist not only between countries but within them; for example, during Hurricane Ida in 2021, many of the fatalities of the first-ever flash flood emergency in New York City were from Latinx and Asian communities who either did not receive or received delayed warning messages in their native languages (Wong 2022).

This Research Note aims to present recent academic debates and initiatives critically focused on multilingualism in science and scholarly communication, addressing the unique challenges of multilingualism in disaster research, communication, and management (DRCM). It concludes with a statement on multilingualism adopted by the *JDS* Editorial Collective, outlining publishing procedures in other languages and encouraging the community of disaster researchers to engage in multilingual research agendas, knowledge accessibility, and intercultural communication.

**Multilingualism in Science: Between English-Only
and the Multilingual Momentum**

In the current discussion on multilingualism in science, the use of English as the lingua franca can be interpreted as a pragmatic path for international communication, mobility, collaboration, and partnerships (Aksnes, Langfeldt, and Wouters 2019; Beigel et al. 2024). However, this can undermine equitable evaluation, knowledge production, and information accessibility in academia, scientific institutions, and governing bodies of research (MacDonald, Crowther, and Wilfrid 2022; Curry and Lillis 2024). Consequently, advocates for multilingualism in science have focused on overcoming the "barriers of the common language" (Steigerwald et al. 2022) and fostering "equitable access to scientific knowledge" (UNESCO 2021).

Different arguments have addressed this complex balance between pragmatism and equity. Curry and Lillis (2024) propose reframing the presence of English in various stages of the scientific endeavor by challenging the idea that it is the predominant linguistic mode in research communities worldwide. They argue that modern scientific ecosystems, characterized by intensive transnational collaborations and diverse intellectual forces, often use multilingual communication during the early stages of research, defining agendas, designing methods and instruments, and expanding networks of collaborators and partnerships. Nonetheless, as research progresses to publication, the space for multilingualism narrows, with a higher probability of using English instead of local or regional languages.

Some authors have analyzed trends in scholarly publication and communication in languages other than English, demonstrating the potential

of multilingualism in the social sciences and humanities (SSH) (in particular Nygaard 2019; Balula and Leão 2021; Cernicova-Buca 2021). In a seven-country European study, Kulczyki et al. (2020) argue that SSH research in native languages has broader effects on local issues and languages, heritage, and culture while remaining relevant to international academic communities. Local SSH researchers deliberately communicate significant research results in local languages and engage in regional and national policy debates. The authors conclude that multilingualism in SSH has been possible in countries that have safeguarded academic production in local languages and provided national alternatives to international citation metrics and assessment platforms. Recently, funding programs and agencies, like the Digital Europe Programme and Horizon Europe,[3] are responding to some of the most challenging aspects of multilingualism in science, research, digital platforms, and open science, calling for more governmental and institutional support for the scientific community and performance-based funding system (European Parliamentary Research Service 2022).[4]

Multilingualism in science reflects an international momentum for action in scientific publishing and scholarly communication, aiming to protect the quality and relevance of scientific research. The Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA 2012), the Leiden Manifesto (Hicks et al. 2015), and the International Open Access Declaration (BOAI20 2022) foreground critical problems resulting from the dominance of English in science and journal impact metrics, notably the Journal Impact Factor. The Leiden Manifesto explicitly advocates for protecting locally relevant research, such as HIV epidemiology in sub-Saharan Africa, which has been negatively affected by the belief that "research excellence is equated with English-language publication" (Hicks et al. 2015, 430). This issue has been exacerbated by leading non-English journals' decision to stop accepting submissions in local languages. The manifesto concludes that pluralism and societal relevance in science "tend(s) to be suppressed to create papers of interest to the gatekeepers of high-impact English-language journals" (Hicks et al. 2015, 430).

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3 See https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=legissum:c11084 and https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/language-technologies-multilingualism.

4 Growing efforts to support local languages should be considered within the complexities of language requirements in multilingual academic settings, particularly for scholars with migrant backgrounds. Some authors argue that policies supporting national language use can contribute to "academic inbreeding" (Seeber and Mampaey 2020) or align with new efforts to "de-internationalize" academia (Kamerlin 2024; Nash 2024), which can, in some cases, play into far-right political agendas.

These declarations have been influential across various communities and scales of action. The Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales (2022) has updated its principles on research assessment, favoring multilingualism and the participation and collaboration of diverse actors in research processes. UNESCO (2021) has urged nations and national scientific systems to adopt responsible practices in scientific endeavors, including practices that foster inclusion and promote diverse research results. Finally, the Helsinki Initiative on Multilingualism in Scholarly Communication (Federation of Finnish Learned Societies et al. 2019) has established simple yet precise principles for individuals, groups of researchers, and institutions to adopt language diversity in research and assessment, which a growing number of local and regional scientific networks has endorsed.

How much this momentum will transform the scientific system remains to be seen. Current multilingual practices may be invisible to international scientific circuits and their networks. Engaging in multilingual inclusivity requires sustained institutional support, robust alternative metrics, and a cultural shift in the academic community. Scientific communities will need to balance the use of international English with recognizing multilingual practices (Patten and Morley 2009; Márquez and Porras 2020). In that regard, the Global South has already contributed to navigating the tensions of publishing in local languages while making some of their publications available in English.[5] In addition, the translation and duplication of articles in different languages should be discussed, and the social impact of duplicate publications should be recognized, as well as how it may offset ethical concerns about duplicate publications (Curry and Lillis 2014). Sound guidelines on this are provided by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE Council 2021) and the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors.[6]

Multilingualism in DRCM

Where do or should DRCM stand in the context of linguistic inclusivity and diversity in science and scholarly communication? Authoritative voices in

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5   For example, the authors of this article have actively participated in supporting journals of science and technology studies (STS) like *Tapuya* (https://tapuya.org/) from Latin America and *EASTS* (https://www.easts-journal.com/) from Asian countries, both of which have become critical voices of STS. They advocate using English to bridge the gap between original ideas from these communities and the English-speaking global communities, despite their emphasis on showcasing STS thinking from their regions.

6   "Overlapping Publications," International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, https://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/publishing-and-editorial-issues/overlapping-publications.html.

disaster studies recognize the value of English for responsibly communicating and coordinating transnational academic collaborations and emergency and disaster responses. However, they have expressed deep concerns about the dominance of English in DRCM. This dominance, they argue, perpetuates linguicism and prolongs the hegemony of anglophone societies and ideologies in disaster contexts (Arlikatti, Taibah, and Andrew 2014; Chmutina, von Meding, and Bosher 2019; Méndez, Federici, and O'Brien 2020; Flores-Haro, and Zucker 2020; Uekusa and Matthewman 2023).

Even in circumstances where the most sustainable solutions to hazards, risks, and disasters come from local communities, researchers have learned that concepts explaining prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery are often developed and communicated in English, with anglophone framing (Chmutina et al. 2021a). That has been the case with the application of the resilience-adaptation framework in Latin America, which has ubiquitously introduced technical terms (e.g., adaptation, security, resilience, maladaptation) that today are the rhetorical and economic approaches to disaster in the region (Lizarralde et al. 2020). English-language disaster knowledge, from its production to its dissemination across academia, humanitarian organizations, governments, practitioners, and non-English speakers, appears to follow an "organic cycle" (O'Brien et al. 2018; Uekusa 2019; Alexander and Pescaroli 2020; Uekusa and Matthewman 2023). It notably influences how concepts and frameworks, such as Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), gain prominence worldwide (Chmutina et al. 2021a, 2021b).

There are essential differences between the current debates on multilingual scholarly publication and communication and those held in DRCM. First is the definition of how and who should adopt multilingualism. In science, this is steered by academic communities, whereas DRCM can take multiple forms (O'Brien et al. 2018). This is partly due to the complex network of stakeholders and communities devoted to the "disaster problem," including international and emergency managers, first responders, government and faith leaders, local communities, disaster and risk agencies, humanitarian organizations, and scholars (Tesseur 2019; World Health Organization 2021).

Second is the ethical and moral obligations of multilingualism. In science, these obligations are defined depending on the context and disciplinary applications. In contrast, DRCM might apply more generally to the participation and rights of the illiterate, historically underrepresented, and linguistic minority communities (Uekusa 2019), aiming to protect human lives and societal integrity (Federici et al. 2019) and helping overcome cultural barriers and build trust during crises (Ahmad and Hillman 2021).

Third is the scope of multilingual communication. Multilingual science communication is context-dependent, responding to education systems,

policy uses, and disciplinary epistemic cultures. In disaster contexts, the scope of multilingual communication and management is often to limit, contain, mitigate, and reduce harm during crises (Ahmad and Hillman 2021), manage disaster recovery (Federici and O'Brien 2020), and implement DRR strategies (Uekusa and Matthewman 2023).

In the complex ecosystem of DRCM, multilingual initiatives have many roots. Some are grounded in the standards of academic research (Lizarralde et al. 2020), whereas others are rooted in the traditions of policy and planning and multilateral and humanitarian aid (International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies 2018). In disaster research, two main approaches describe the position on multilingualism: the inward argument and the outward argument.

The inward argument analyzes the use of language in disaster research to raise an auto-critique. In general, it explains that the English language and knowledge perpetuate the domination of English-speaking scholars and universalize anglophone concepts, ontologies, and epistemic frameworks, often disregarding local knowledge (Chmutina, von Meding, and Bosher 2019; Chmutina 2021a, 2021b; Gaillard 2021).

The outward argument addresses communicative and management practices in the broader system that perpetuates linguistic exclusion in disasters. It uses categories such as "disaster linguicism" (Uekusa 2019) and "intercultural communication" (Declercq and Federici 2019) to analyze different scales and dimensions of disasters, emergencies, and developing crises. This argument is founded on the understanding that we live in an era characterized by nonlinear, cascading disasters and overlapping risks and natural hazards in highly interconnected systems and societies (Alexander and Pescaroli 2019, 2020; Federici and O'Brien 2020). In this linguistic context, the nonlinearity and cascading nature of disasters can cause exponential effects from relatively manageable issues when systemic vulnerabilities are coupled with gaps in translation, interpretation, and communication with linguistic minorities (Uekusa 2019; Alexander and Pescaroli 2020; Piller, Zhang, and Li 2020).

Regardless of which argument (inward or outward) is adopted, disaster researchers have offered thought-provoking ideas on how to build future inclusive multilingual agendas. Some researchers have advocated for more studies of intercultural and multilingual communication during crises and disasters, foregrounding the effects of linguicism on non–English speaking populations and marginalized groups (Declercq and Federici 2019; Ahmad and Hillman 2021). These researchers examine effective intercultural communication across diverse populations and geolinguistic contexts affected by cascading disasters associated with high-risk technological systems (i.e., electricity grids) and compound environmental hazards (Alexander and Pescaroli

2020; Ahmad and Hillman 2021). Other researchers point to translation as intellectually generative (Watanabe 2021), whereas others are concerned about intercultural aspects beyond the linguistic competence of a specific language but capable of negotiating cultural meanings (Galante 2022). Four principles guide intercultural communication agenda: availability of translated information and ideas; accessibility of information, freely available on multiple modes and platforms; acceptability of the translation, based on its linguistic and cultural accuracy and appropriateness; and adaptability, which enables the translated information to be shared in different settings (i.e., among different language proficiencies, technological demands, modes of delivery, hazards, and movement of people) (Federici et al. 2019). Intercultural communication researchers have also advanced recommendations to policy makers, emergency managers, and humanitarian organizations to guide the communication, translation, and interpretation of information addressed to linguistic minorities to help them prepare, respond, and recover from disasters, emergencies, and crises (O'Brien et al. 2018; Alexander and Pescaroli 2020; Federici and O'Brien 2020).

Finally, the Disaster Studies Manifesto and Accord (2019) is another example of initiatives calling for action to promote inclusive agendas related to multilingualism in disaster research. "Power, Prestige & Forgotten Values: A Disaster Studies Manifesto" invites disaster scholars to confront the "cultural deficit," "prevailing narratives," and "institutional interests" that drive most of the current research by committing to epistemic and ontological diversity, expanding on local agendas and participation of researchers and communities, and addressing the "root causes of vulnerability." "Priorities, Values, and Relationships: A Disaster Studies Accord" guides disaster researchers with questions that apply to different phases of their research projects, such as "Whose language/s and modes of sharing are prioritized and used?," "What are the languages and modes of dissemination of . . . the publications?," and "Who understands the research findings, and who should understand the research findings?"

Multilingualism in the *Journal of Disaster Studies*
This Research Note examines the growing momentum of inclusive multilingualism in science and scholarly communication, highlighting its adoption by various scientific communities and international initiatives. It presents the challenges and opportunities in DRCM and describes strategies for integrating multilingual practices into scientific endeavors and disaster contexts. We conclude by inviting disaster researchers to engage in and materialize multilingual endeavors in and beyond academia.

We recognize the significant challenges for advocates of multilingualism in science and DRCM in advancing beyond this multilingual momentum, as the current monolingual system responds to pragmatic views and people who have historically legitimized power relations between countries and governing institutions in science and disaster communication and management. The use of English and standardized evaluations in science are instrumental for assessing the quality of work in transnational scientific communities and key to reaching consensus among people from diverse geographic and cultural backgrounds (Sivertsen 2018; Aksnes, Langfeldt, and Wouters 2019). Similarly, during global emergencies, mutual forms of communication have been essential in achieving complex multilateral cooperation and rapid coordination (Alexander and Pescaroli 2020). So how do we balance a pragmatic approach with expanding multilingualism to ensure that it does not undermine what has been gained through the use of a dominant language but enhances our capacity to address global challenges inclusively and effectively?

First, we encourage the larger community of disaster researchers to build on the contributions of colleagues and advocates of multilingual science. These efforts are shaping equitable, intercultural, and multilingual communication, renewing values and practices in the current transnational scientific ecosystem and communities across DRCM. Advancing an inclusive approach to multilingualism (Backus et al. 2013) in science and DRCM could positively affect understanding of complex social and environmental issues that are intrinsically multidimensional and dynamic, requiring diverse inputs from knowledge systems, cultural frames, and spoken languages (Kago and Cissé 2021). Deepening the adoption of multilingualism and alternative linguistic practices (e.g., polylingualism, metrolingualism, translanguaging[7]) would help redistribute efforts across different groups and empower communities to demand and access better and more robust information, ultimately protecting their lives (Backus et al. 2013).

Second, we offer *JDS* as a platform to develop multilingualism in scholarly publications. While understanding concerns about duplicate publication and self-plagiarism, we also want to expand multilingual opportunities

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7 Polylingualism argues that "language users employ whatever linguistic features are at their disposal to achieve their communicative aims as best they can, regardless of how well they know the involved language" (Jørgensen et al. 2011). Metrolingualism is defined as the "ways in which people of different and mixed backgrounds use, play with and negotiate identities through language" (Otsuji and Pennycook 2009). Translanguaging is the "deployment of a speaker's full linguistic repertoire without regard for watchful adherence to the socially and politically defined boundaries of named (and usually national and state) languages" (Otheguy et al. 2015).

(Curry and Lillis 2014) that will be key to diversifying intellectual genealogies, theoretical frames, empirical material, and voices contributing to disaster research. As we undertake this effort and learn from the editorial and inter-cultural aspects of inclusive multilingualism in peer-reviewed journals, the *JDS* Editorial Collective is committed to fostering, strengthening, and refining multilingual approaches the disaster research community considers appropriate. At this point, the editorial process supporting this initiative includes:

- All abstracts of published papers will be available in Korean, Spanish, and English.[8] Abstracts in additional languages will be published if expertise is available in the Editorial Collective and Board. Each abstract will share the same length and criteria across languages and be published on the Disaster STS Network's digital platform (https://disaster-sts-network .org/), which supports exchanges between authors and readers.
- The journal is open to submissions in all languages, provided a member of the Editorial Collective or Editorial Board is available to guide the manuscript through the review process. If Editorial Board members cannot review the submission, four external reviewers (rather than the usual two) will be engaged. Once reviews are received, the submission steward will produce a written summary for the Editorial Collective.
- When an article in a language other than English is published in the journal, an English abstract will accompany the article. When appropriate (given the language and auto-translation quality), an automated article translation, flagged as a rough translation, will be published on the digital platform. Following publication, we will host virtual seminars focused on the article, moderated by a member of the Editorial Collective, working closely with the author and steward of the article.

8 The reasons behind choosing these three languages are mixed. From the inception of this journal, the Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, through one of the founding members and Editorial Collective members, has been supportive and committed to expand its academic production in this area in Korea and internationally. Spanish was selected because a number of Editorial Collective and Editorial Board members are either from Spanish-speaking countries and/or continuously work with Spanish-speaking communities and departments. Finally, English, as this article has exposed, is the language that we academically share for historical and cultural reasons.

This dialogue, conducted in English, will deepen the exchange across languages, which is the goal of the multilingual publishing initiative.

- Like other submissions published by the journal, articles and abstracts published in languages other than English will be widely promoted through social media.
- Partnering with the Transnational STS Publishing Working Group, the Editorial Collective plans to host dialogues with other editors publishing in diverse languages, learning from their best practices. These dialogues will include consideration of publishing ethics in multilingual initiatives, building on the journal's engagement with the Committee on Publishing Ethics.
- After this statement is published, follow-up editorials are expected to be released to share what has been learned through the initiative and any changes to be made in the supporting editorial process. Similarly, the *JDS* Editorial Collective and Editorial Board will discuss, create, and update statements on how best to handle article translations from English to other languages and from other languages to English, encouraging citation diversity (Bowker 2024). The *JDS* Editorial Collective will also explore and deliberate the potential and limitations of new technologies like large language models for linguistic accessibility in disaster research and contexts.
- We will actively participate in international initiatives that support, foster, and promote multilingual inclusiveness and alternative indicators of significance and impact.

By embracing these practices, *JDS* seeks to fulfill its foundational mission of fostering a comprehensive and inclusive understanding of disaster phenomena by integrating diverse linguistic and cultural perspectives. Contributing to the multilingual endeavor enriches disaster research, methodologies, and frameworks, calling our community to action and strengthening our epistemic practices. With this commitment to multilingualism, we aspire to contribute to a more robust and diverse scholarly community, advancing disaster research's epistemological frontiers and engaged scholarship.

Notes
During the peer-reviewing process for this article, two authors, Jen Henderson and Rodolfo Hernandez Perez, voluntarily stepped aside from the *JDS* Editorial Collective. Hernandez Perez continues to serve on the *JDS* Editorial

Board. Henderson and Hernandez Perez were among the journal's founders and contributed extensively to the discussion about what the journal should aspire to achieve. The *JDS* Editorial Collective remains very committed to the multilingual initiative described in this Research Note.

Rodolfo Hernandez Perez is a research scientist studying the intersection of compounding disasters, risk communication, and public/expert engagement in extreme weather preparedness.

Jen Henderson is an Assistant Professor of Geography who works with experts in the weather community to co-produce knowledge about challenges in predicting and communicating compound hazards and other weather and climate extremes.

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