

Postdoctoral researcher Maria Obojska (Institute for Research on Multilingualism (MLing), University of Luxembourg)

'Why should I make my life harder?' – Identity and name change in a narrative of a Polish migrant in Norway.

The present study explores the case of a transnational Polish individual in Norway, who decided to change his first name after the initial experiences of migration. Drawing on audio-recorded interactions in the interview situation, the present contribution investigates identity constructions of the focal participant in his narrative about the name change. The analysis shows that the identity claims the focal participant makes aim at dissociating himself from the powerless, stigmatized position of a migrant, in which he was cast upon his arrival in Norway.