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Multimodal Communication in Political Speech

Shaping Minds and Social Action

International Workshop, Political Speech 2010
Rome, Italy, November 10-12, 2010
Revised Selected Papers

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Preface

“One child, one teacher, one book, and one pen can change the world”

We dedicate this book to Malala,
a young Pakistani woman wounded while struggling
for the education of all children in the world.

A bright example of the political relevance of speech.

This book stems from the International Workshop “Political Speech”, held at the University Roma Tre (Rome, Italy) during November 10th and 12th, 2010. The event was funded by the FP7 European Network of Excellence SSPNet (Social Signal Processing Network, G.A. n. 231287), and was organized in collaboration with GSCP (Gruppo di Studio della Comunicazione Parlata), a section of SLI (Italian Linguistics Society).

During the workshop, 26 contributors from a dozen different countries (including three key-note speakers) presented their works – selected out of 33 submissions – on multimodal aspects of political communication, including persuasion, fallacies, racist discourse, music, autobiographic memories, metonymies, dominant postures, rhetorical strategies, interruptions, intonation, voice appeal, etc. (the recordings of the presentations are available on the Virtual Learning Center of the Social Signal Processing Network: <http://sspnet.eu/2010/11/international-workshop-political-speech-%E2%80%93-il-parlato-politico-roma-italy-2/>).

The contributors covered a wide and diverse range of research fields (social psychology, linguistics, pragmatics, argumentation theory, multimodal communication, political science, politolinguistics, corpus analysis, computer science, artificial intelligence), thus stressing need and effectiveness of multidisciplinary approaches. As a result, the 18 chapters of this volume provide an extensive overview of the research on multimodal communication in political speech.

July 2013

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