

Conference Name: 2020 Asian Conference on Language (ACL)

Date: March 30-31, 2020

Presenter: Irina Sialini

Due to the unexpected circumstances caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Asian Conference on Language (ACL) was conducted online via live streaming on March 30 and 31, 2020.

My oral presentation was slightly extended, including a Q&A session, lasting approximately 30 minutes. While I felt confident navigating the technical aspects of Zoom, the timing of the conference posed significant challenges due to the seven-hour time difference between Japan and the Czech Republic, where I currently reside.

Regrettably, my experience was marred by organizational issues. The decision to switch to an online format was made at the last minute, and my oral presentation was mistakenly omitted from the online schedule. I had to reach out to the organizing committee to rectify this oversight. Additionally, the time difference was not adequately considered, requiring me to wake up at 4 a.m. to present. I also attempted to request a refund for the conference fee multiple times, citing extraordinary circumstances; however, my requests were denied.

On a positive note, preparing for my presentation was a rewarding experience. I invested considerable time in my research, which I later utilized for the Level 3 Movie Project developed for online teaching.

In conclusion, while my preparation was a positive experience, the attitude and management of the organizing committee left much to be desired.