Thinking Against the Grain:
Australian Studies in Times of Constraint
ONLINE SYMPOSIUM
European Association for Studies of Australia
27-28 November 2026

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAMME

DAY 1 Friday 27 Nov 2026	
8:00-9:15 CET **15:00-16:15 AWST** **18:00-19:15 AEDT**	**Introduction:** Iva Polak, President of EASA **KEYNOTE 1, Chair: Geoff Rodoreda** **MATTHEW GRAVES** **"Where Else Would Australia Want to Be?" Geopolitical Change and the Discourse of Realignment in the Post-consensus World Order**
9:15-9:30 CET **16:15-16:30 AWST** **19:15-19:30 AEDT**	**15-MIN BREAK**
9:30-10:30 CET **16:30-17:30 AWST** **19:30-20:30 AEDT**	**PANEL 1, Chair: Geoff Rodoreda** 1. **Vany Fitria:** Reversing the Australian Gaze: Expatriate Privilege, Cultural Othering, and the Politics of Belonging in Madelaine Dickie's *Troppo* 2. **Miriam Potter:** "The Great Australian Emptiness": Reading Patrick White Against the Grain 3. **Mark Azzopardi:** Understanding Parodies of Patrick White
10:30-11:30 CET **17:30-18:30 AWST** **20:30-21:30 AEDT**	**BOOK PRESENTATIONS, Chair: Marilena Parlati** 1. **Vannessa Hearman**, *The Good Sea: The Journey of the Tasi Diak and the Politics of Refugee Protection in Australia*, Melbourne University Press, 2026 2. **Konstandina Dounis**, *A New History of Greek-Australian Literature, Sea River Press, 2025* 3. **Porscha Fermanis**, *Settler Fiction from the Southern Hemisphere*, 1820-1890, Oxford University Press, 2026
11:30-11:45 CET **18:30-18:45 AWST** **21:30-21:45 AEDT**	**15-MIN BREAK**
11:45-12:45 CET **18:45-19:45 AWST** **21:45-22:45 AEDT**	**PANEL 2, Chair: Claudia Novosivschei** 1. **Tihana Klepač:** Drought, Fire and the Anxious Garden: Settler Environmental Anxiety in Rosa Praed's *My Australian Girlhood* 2. **Dan Tout:** Progressive Patriotism and the Settler Predicament: Australian Studies Against the Nation? 3. **Theodora Patrona:** Living/Writing against the grain: Reflecting on Helen Nickas's *Athina and her Daughters: A Memoir of Two Worlds* (2009)
12:45-13:00 CET **19:45-20:00 AWST**	**DAY 1 WRAP-UP**

DAY 2 .Saturday 28 Nov 2026	
8:00-9:00 CET **15:00-16:00 AWST** **18:00-19:00 AEDT**	**KEYNOTE 2, Chair: Iva Polak** **KATE RIGBY** **Securing (Co)habitability, Extending the (Eco)humanities**
9:00-10:00 CET **16:00-17:00 AWST** **19:00-20:00 AEDT**	**ROUNDTABLE, Chair: Iva Polak** **Australian Studies Against the Grain: Europe and the Indo-Pacific** **Yasue Arimitsu**, Doshisha University **Hiroya Sugita**, Kanagawa University **Suja Kurup P.L.**, University of Kerala **Beibei Chen**, East China Normal University **Tanya Dalziell**, University of Western Australia **Carsten Wergin**, University of Heidelberg **Iva Polak**, University of Zagreb
10:00-10:15 CET **17:00-17:15 AWST** **20:00-20:15 AEDT**	**15-MIN BREAK**
10:15-11:15 CET **17:15-18:15 AWST** **20:15-21:15 AEDT**	**PANEL 3, Chair: Salhia Ben-Messahel** 1. **Margherita Zanoletti**: Mapping Italian Translations of Australian Literature: Voices, Territories and Languages 2. **Anna Gosebrink, Dany Adone, David Newry, Glennis Galbat Newry, Ingrid Ningarmara, Jimmy Paddy**: *Det Kandriyi Bla Ajmob*: Speaking of Belonging in Two Australian Creoles 3. **Angélique Stastny**: First Nations' Anti-Colonial Activist Periodicals: A Lesson on Political Practice and Uncompromising Ethics
11:15-12:15 CET **18:15-19:15 AWST** **21:15-22:15 AEDT**	**BOOK PRESENTATION, Chair: Geoff Rodoreda** **Martina Horáková,** *Pursuits of Settler Belonging in Contemporary Australian Memoirs*, Anthem Press, 2026 **PROJECT PRESENTATIONS, Chair: Geoff Rodoreda** 1. ***French Connections, Australian Voices: Three Projects on Spoken English*** Team: Caroline David, Marjolaine Martin, Anne Przewozny 2. **Off Center: Croatian and Anglophone Responses to (Techno)Anthropocentrism** Team: Iva Polak, Vanja Polić Jurković, Irena Zovko Dinković, Nikica Gilić, Marcel Burić, Irma Krčan, Salhia Ben-Messahel, Mark Metzler Sawin
12:15-12:30CET **19:15-19:30 AWST** **21:15-21:30 AEDT**	**CLOSING OF THE CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**
BREAK	**30-MIN BREAK**
13:00-14:00 CET	**EASA GENERAL BOARD MEETING (MEMBERS ONLY)** ***Zoom link provided separately to EASA members**