

The Recycled Nation: Language in/and contemporary Finnish higher education

Taina Saarinen

The presentation discusses recycled discourses of language and nationalism in Finnish higher education, linking those discourses to current new nationalist policies. Doing that, the presentation criticises the ahistorical views of “neo-nationalism” that tend to view it as a collection of 21st century, populist, anti-migration or anti-authoritarian ideologies (Eger & Valdez 2015), while disregarding its longer historical and societal roots. Such an ahistorical understanding could be problematic as it runs the risk of trivializing neo-nationalism into a contemporary extremist political ideology. The presentation approaches “neo-nationalism” in Finnish higher education as a continuum of historically recycled ideologies of nation and nationalism (Saarinen 2020).

Eger, M., and S. Valdez. 2015. Neo-nationalism in Western Europe. *European Sociological Review* 31 (1): 115-30.

Saarinen, T. (2020). *Higher Education, Language and New Nationalism in Finland : Recycled Histories*. Palgrave Macmillan.