

# Niko Tapio Partanen

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Blog: [langdoc.github.io](http://langdoc.github.io) (multiple authors)

Born: December 23, 1986–Finland  
Nationality: Finnish

## Current position

Researcher, Lattice-CNRS / Ecole Normale Supérieure (Apr 2017–present)

## Areas of specialization

I study sociolinguistic variation in Permic languages, but as a continuous side-project I investigate the applicability of computational methods to documentary linguistics data. I'm also studying topics related to language shift and language revitalization.

**Keywords:** Sociolinguistics, endangered languages, documentary linguistics, Natural Language Processing, corpus linguistics, Permic languages, research methodology

## Positions held

2017-2019	PI in project <b>Language Documentation meets Language Technology: The Next Step in the Description of Komi</b> , funded by Kone Foundation
2015-2017	Software developer, INEL / Hamburger Zentrum für Sprachkorpora
2014-2015	PhD student in project <b>Izhva Komi Language Documentation</b> , funded by Kone Foundation. Freiburg Research Group in Saami Studies
2013	PI in project <b>Down River Vashka</b> , Komi (Udora dialect), funded by Kone Foundation and MinorEuRus
2012-2013	Research assistant, University of Helsinki

## Education

- 2013 MA in Finno-Ugric linguistics, University of Helsinki  
2013 BA in Finno-Ugric linguistics, University of Helsinki  
fall 2011 north2north program exchange student, Syktyvkar State University

## Grants, honors & awards

- 2014 VIETS Master Thesis Prize, Finnish Association for Russian and Eastern European Studies

## Publications and Presentations

### PRESENTATIONS

- 2017 Niko Partanen: Issues with archiving linguistic data. Perspectives from work on Permic languages. Travaux de terrains anthropologiques et linguistiques : expériences et difficultés. 20, May, INALCO, Paris, France
- 2017 Ciprian Gerstenberger, Niko Partanen & Michael Rießler: Instant annotations in ELAN corpora of spoken and written Komi-Zyrian, an endangered language of the Barents Sea region (Russia). ComputEL-2 (2nd Workshop on Computational Methods for Endangered Languages). 6-7 March, 2017, Honolulu, Hawaii
- 2017 Niko Partanen: Challenges in OCR today. Report on experiences from INEL. Conference: Electronic Writing of RF Peoples: History, Issues, and Perspectives. 17 March, 2017, Syktyvkar
- 2016 Daniel Jettka, Timm Lehmberg & Niko Partanen: Digital workflows. INEL workshop. 03. November, 2016. INEL / Hamburger Zentrum für Sprachkorpora, Hamburg.
- 2016 Niko Partanen: Russian influence on Izva Komi sibilant articulation. SLE conference, 25. August, 2016, Naples, Italy
- 2015 Hanna Thiele, Niko Partanen & Michael Rießler: Exploring constituent order variation in selected languages of the Barents Sea area. Transalpine Typology Meeting, 8–9 October, 2015, Lyon, France
- 2015 Rogier Blokland, Michael Rießler, Niko Partanen & Joshua Wilbur: A critical evaluation of past, current and future approaches in Uralic language documentation. XII International Congress for Finno-Ugric Studies, 17–20 August, 2015, Oulu, Finland
- 2015 Partanen, Niko & Saarikivi, Janne: Linguistic variation in the Karelian communities. XII International Congress for Finno-Ugric Studies, 17–20 August, 2015, Oulu, Finland
- 2014

Rogier Blokland, Ciprian Gerstenberger, Marina Fedina, Niko Partanen, Michael Rießler, and Joshua Wilbur: Language documentation meets language technology. First International Workshop on Computational Linguistics for Uralic Languages. 16th January, 2015, Tromsø, Norway

- 2013 Saarikivi, Janne & Partanen, Niko: Rapid extinction or relative revitalization? Karelian and Komi language communities in comparison. International Conference on Minority Languages XIV, 11–14 September 2013, Graz, Austria
- 2012 Partanen, Niko (2012), Poster presentation: Language shift in Komi, Sociolinguistics Symposium 19, Berlin

#### JOURNAL ARTICLES AND FINAL PAPERS

- 2016 Ciprian Gerstenberger, Niko Partanen, Michael Rießler & Joshua Wilbur: Utilizing language technology in the documentation of endangered Uralic languages. *Northern European Journal of Language Technology*, 4, 29-47
- 2016 Partanen, Niko & Saarikivi, Janne (2016), Fragmentation of Karelian language and its community: growing variation at the threshold of the language shift. In: *Toivanen, Reetta & Saarikivi, Janne (eds.), New and Old Language Diversities, Multilingual Matters*
- 2014 Rogier Blokland, Michael Rießler, Niko Partanen, Marina Fedina & Andrei Chemyshev: Ispol'zovanie cifrovyyx korpusov i komp'yuternyyx programm v dialektologičeskix issledovaniyax: teoria i praktika. In: Khisamitdinova, F.G (ed). *Räsäj xalıqtary teldäre dialektologijahynyñ köñüädäk mäşäläläre. XIV Bötä Räsäj fänni konferenciya materialdary (Öfö, 20-22 nojabr', 2014 j.). Aktualnye problemy dialektologii jazykov narodov Rossii: Materialy XIV Vserossijskoj naučnoj konferencii (Ufa, 20-22 nojabrja 2014 g.).* Ufa: IJJaL UNC RAN. 252–255.
- 2013 Partanen, Niko (2013), Kahden suomalais-ugrilaisen yhteisön kielenvaihdon vertailevaa tarkastelua: Tuuksa Karjalassa ja Koigort Komissa (Comparative examination of the language shift in two Uralic speech communities: Tuuksa in Karelia and Koigort in Komi), *Unpublished Master Thesis, University of Helsinki*
- 2013 Partanen, Niko (2013), Kielenvaihdon tarkastelua Vuokkiniemellä ja Viteleellä: Vuosien 2004 ja 2010 kenttätöaineistojen analyysi (Observing the language shift in Vuokkiniemi and Vitele: analysis of the fieldwork materials from 2004 and 2010), *Unpublished Bachelor Thesis, University of Helsinki*

#### BOOKS

- forthcoming Partanen, Niko & Saarikivi, Janne (eds.) (2017), *Materiaaleja karjalan kielen nykytilasta (Materials on the current state of the Karelian language)*

#### LANGUAGE SKILLS

Finnish: native  
Komi-Zyrian: very good  
English: very good  
Italian: good  
Russian: good  
Udmurt: conversational  
Komi-Permyak: conversational  
Swedish: conversational  
German: conversational  
French: actively learning

#### COMPUTER SKILLS

**Good knowledge:** R, GiellaTekno infrastructure, LaTeX, XML, GIS tools, OCR tools  
**Learning / actively using:** Python, audio processing methods, speech recognition

#### RECENT FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE WITH PERMIC LANGUAGES

2016	Kola Peninsula, Murmanskij Oblast, two weeks <i>Funded by Kone Foundation</i>
2015	Different regions in Udmurtia, ten days <i>No external funding</i>
2015	Izhemsky rayon, Komi Republic, five days <i>Funded by Развития фундаментальных лингвистических исследований</i>
2015	Naryan-Mar, Nenetskiy Autonomous Okrug, two weeks <i>Funded by Kone Foundation</i>
2014	Izhemsky rayon, Komi Republic, two weeks <i>Funded by Kone Foundation</i>
2013	Udorsky rayon, Komi Republic, a month <i>Funded by Kone Foundation and MinorEuRus</i>
2012	Koygorodsky rayon, Komi Republic, two weeks <i>Funded by MinorEuRus</i>