

# ALLUNGALISTA GENERICI E SPECIFICI NEI TESTI GIURIDICI

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## ABSTRACT

This paper contains a survey of the use of general and specific extenders in Italian legal texts based on two corpora, the *Bononia Legal Corpus* and *Jus Jurium*. After illustrating the structure of extenders as expressions involving encapsulation, the survey delimits the range and distribution of extenders attested in legal texts, grouping the texts according to their macro-pragmatic function and to the occurrence of different kinds of extenders, namely specific extenders like *e/o altro* + noun phrase, the general extenders *eccetera* and *e/o simili*, and other less formal expressions which only occur in court verdicts. It also tries to account for the textual and pragmatic functions of extenders, focusing on their role in the expression of ad hoc (or context-dependent) categories, which they share with other exemplifying constructions. Four kinds of constructions with similar textual functions are also identified relying on the position and number of named exemplars (host or reference anchor for category construal), the position and degree of explicitness of the hyperonym (semantic clue for category construal), the presence and kind of extenders (triggers of category construal). Possible ambiguities generated by general extenders are also tackled.